THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Fall 2015 *Volume 23, Number 3*

A DECEPTIVE COUNTERFEIT COB

Featured in this issue:

- Life and times of Thomas Machin
- Other "Dollars" in America's history
- An amazing counterfeit cob
- Signers of NJ's 1776 bills
- Starting a collection of Spanish American colonials
- Book Review – Abel Buell
- NJ 72-aa rediscovery
- Bob Vlack and Bill Anton (RIP)
- 3rd Quarter Auction Recap
- Printing errors on NJ bills

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Membership questions, address changes, and dues should be sent to Charlie Rohrer at P.O. Box 25, Mountville, PA 17554. Dues are $30 regular (including 1st class mailing of the *Newsletter within the US*) and $40 (for 1st class mailing outside the US); $10 for junior members (under 18 residing in the US) and $15 (under 19 residing outside the US).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -- OCTOBER 2015

(Jim Rosen)

{PLEASE PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE INFORMATION IN BOLD}

It's October (at least by the time you are reading this) and the C4 Convention is just weeks away. This will be our 21st consecutive annual Convention. **As I am sure you all are aware, our convention is November 5-7th in Baltimore MD, at the Baltimore Convention Center, in conjunction with the Whitman Coins and Collectables Expo. All the information you need is on our website at** www.colonialcoins.org **(click on the Whitman Coins and Collectables Expos, then click on Expos, then under upcoming Expos, click on Baltimore Winter Expo). Our Social and Educational Program will be held Thursday evening November 5th beginning at 5pm in the Harborview Room of the Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel. Because of the ridiculous food costs that just keep on escalating, we would like to ask each member attending the dinner to make a donation of ~$25 to help defray our costs of this dinner. A basket will be found in the room for your convenience.**

Our C4/Stack's Bowers co-sponsored auction will be held on Friday, November 6th at the Convention Center; however, at the time of this writing, the room and time of the auction have not been determined, so please check our website, our club table, the Whitman Website, or the Stack's Bowers website for more definitive information.

As difficult as it may seem to match our educational program from last year, I think we may have done it. This year's Thursday night's Education Program revolves around Spanish and Spanish Colonial Coins that circulated in Pre and Post Federal America. We have 3 outstanding speakers who are authorities on their subjects: Mike Shutty, Bob Gurney and Kent Ponterio. In addition, we are having three daytime lectures over the weekend. Ray Williams is speaking on "Colonial Currency" on Friday at 11am in room 304 of the Convention Center. At 2pm Friday Erik Goldstein is speaking in the same room on the "Numismatics of Dutch New York" and on Saturday at 10am Will Nipper is speaking in room 304 on a "Whirlwind Tour of Coins and Tokens that were used in Early America." I have heard these gentlemen speak before and you will not be disappointed as they are all outstanding speakers.

Like last year, to get your convention program, please register for the convention at our club table. We are going to be at the same location as last year, table number 806. Continuing with some Convention details, the Business Meeting, which is really important to attend, will be held in room 304 of the Convention Center on Saturday November 7th at 9am, just following the Board of Directors Meeting in the same room.

Hopefully, by the time you receive this *Newsletter,* our new website will be up and running. I have seen its beta site and it looks great – I want to publically thank Mike

Wierzba, Jack Howes, Jim Glickman, Gregory Field, Stan Stephens and Ray Williams for all their hard work in making it so. **We are desperately looking for a few members of the club who are computer savvy to be involved with the website. You do not have to be on the Board to be involved with the website. Please, if you have computer skills, call me, email me, or come see me at the convention and volunteer your time...we really need you.**

Just as a reminder, we are having a new program this year...an informal grading and discussion of your pre-federal coins (CT, VT, NJ, and Fugios) as well as the attribution of your coins at our gathering area beginning Thursday, November 5th with CT Coppers and ending with New Jersey Coppers Friday at 3pm. This information, which is now on our website along with other convention schedules, will also be available in the C4 program that you can get at the gathering area. It can also be found in the July *Newsletter*.

This year we are having a donated lots auction. These auctions are becoming very important to the financial stability of our club. This financial support allows us to pursue our mission of advancing the knowledge, disseminating education and funding research of colonial and pre-federal related numismatic material. This year we published Chris McDowell's book on Abel Buell and we have another book by Syd Martin on French Coinage ready to go to the printers. Needless to say, these books are not cheap to print. So please if you can, make a donation to the club either in the form of a check or a tangible asset for the auction. You can send your information to Jack Howes, National Vice President, whose contact information is present in the front of this *Newsletter*.

This year at our gathering area, we are having some wonderful exhibits, including an exhibit by the Board on the Copper Coins of the Republic of Vermont. So please stop by and say hello and check out these exhibits.

In closing, I hope to see many new faces in Baltimore. Travel safe and continue to enjoy our wonderful and rewarding hobby.

****

ERRATA. (1) In the last *C4 Newsletter*, on page 8, bottom paragraph: it should have been stated that the bulk of the *HMS Feversham* coins were sold by Christies (February 1989), with the balance sold by Stacks on 12-13 January 1999. (2) There is an error on page 44 as to the weight of the English Shilling. It should be ~92.9 grains instead of the stated 96 grains, making the Mass Silver shillings 22.5% lighter, not 25% lighter than the English Shilling, or the English Shilling being 29% heavier than the Mass Silver Shillings.

Editor's Note: This paper, along with one to be published in the next *C4 Newsletter* were written by Jack Howes to accompany his talk at the October, 2014 Coinage of the Americas Conference (COAC), jointly sponsored by C4 and The American Numismatic Society, at the C4 Convention, in Baltimore.

THE LIFE AND INTERESTING TIMES OF THOMAS MACHIN

(Jack Howes)

Thomas Machin was born 20th of March 1744 [O.S.] and died 3rd of April 1816, aged 72. These facts are not in dispute. Quite a bit else has been written about Machin over the last 170 years since Jeptha Simms first published biographical "facts" on Machin in his 1845 book titled *History of Schoharie County*. Due to some recently discovered primary source documents, some of what Simms wrote is wrong but is still quoted as fact to this day. It is clear from his text that Simms got some if not all of his information/facts about Machin directly from the son Thomas Machin Jr. [Simms, p.306] and had access to more of Machin's papers than have come down to the present day. That the senior Machin was an officer on the American side of the revolutionary war is not in dispute. Also not in dispute is that after the war he and a group of like-minded people formed two partnerships: one to obtain a contract to strike coinage for the state of New York and the other to assist the original grantee of the Vermont state coinage contract. Primary source documentation exists for some of what Simms published and is discussed in this article.

Was Machin also a deserter, a hero, a minter, a counterfeiter, or all of these things? This article explores the evidence for each and those reading can judge whether acts credited to Machin are plausible or not – and whether acts he is accused of are true or not.

As previously indicated the first biographical writing on Thomas Machin was by Jeptha Simms. What he wrote has been accepted and quoted whole or in part. Sometimes the author will note from where it came, sometimes not. But, looking closer you can see a second line of thought that we will get to. First, from Jeptha Simms (1845), not quite 30 years after Thomas Machin's death, page 550:

> *Among the officers of the American army deserving of notice, was Captain Thomas Machin, engineer; distinguished alike for his mathematical skill and patriotic bravery. He was* ***born March 20th, 1744, O.S., four miles from Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, England. His father, John Machin, a distinguished mathematician, had two sons, John and Thomas.*** *The former was killed at the siege of some town near the outlet of the Red Sea;* ***and the latter was one of a corps of English cadets, which, with the British infantry became so distinguished for their bravery in the battle of Minden, Germany.***

No documentary sources are cited for these facts. J.L. Bell concludes[1] that most of these facts are unverifiable and some are provably wrong, e.g., he indicates that he did some amount of searching for birth records, "I've looked at birth records from parishes that fit the description and haven't found Machin's name, but of course I might have missed the right register."

After some further searching, I have found a likely candidate[2] -- a christening [baptism] record from High Offley, Staffordshire which is approximately six miles from Wolverhampton, which is clearly in the right area [See Figure TM1.]. The record does not list a birth date as some such records do, but only the date of the christening which is just over four months from the birth date given by Simms. This is totally in line with typical English practice. I believe this is highly probable to be the baptismal record of the revolutionary war officer Thomas Machin under discussion. And thus the date given by Simms which can only have come from either his son or from Machin's papers is most likely correct.

Thomas Machin
England Births and Christenings

Name	Thomas Machin
Gender	Male
Christening Date	05 Aug 1744
Christening Place	, HIGH OFFLEY, STAFFORD, ENGLAND
Father's Name	Mathew Machin
Mother's Name	Jane

Figure TM1. Likely baptismal record for Thomas Machin

Bell, however, does show that John Machin, the mathematician, is very unlikely to be his father. John Machin was a well-known professor of astronomy at Gresham College, London. He had no connection to Wolverhampton, more than a hundred miles away. He never married, and the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography says that when he died "his only relative was a second cousin, Mary Tasker." If the birth record I found is the right one, it clearly indicates Machin's parents are Mathew and Jane. So how did this legend of John Machin occur? Since Simms account is directly from the son and one would expect that sons knew at least the names of the grandparents, something else is likely happening. I think the son was not an entirely trustworthy source -- more on this later.

[1] Bell, J.L. [http://boston1775.blogspot.com/2013/03/the-holes-in-thomas-machins-biography.html].

[2] "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975", *FamilySearch,* Accessed 14 August 2015, Thomas Machin, 05 Aug 1744; citing , HIGH OFFLEY, STAFFORD, ENGLAND, reference ; FHL microfilm 417,198. URL: https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NGQ4-LQN,

Bell also concludes that Machin was not at the battle of Minden. He may be right, but there were a number of English regiments that fought in this battle. It was not uncommon for a regiment to have auxiliary parts, such as a group of cadets.[3] So, I wouldn't rule this out for several reasons. It is a strange and odd, off-the-wall thing to include in personal history if not based on actual history and it was also a place that Machin could have learned something about surveying and map making! Continuing to quote from Simms, page 550:

> *... Those great works which were looked upon at their commencement by the incredulous as wholly impracticable were prosecuted to completion under the direction of the celebrated engineer and mechanical inventor,* ***James Brindley****. Soon after Brindley began those works,* ***Thomas Machin entered his employ****; and it is not surprising that under such a tutor, he, too, should have become a good practical engineer. He was engaged in taking the levels for the Duke's canal; and as clerk paid off many of the laborers employed by Brindley.*
>
> *After making a voyage to the East Indies, Machin sailed for America, and* ***arriving in 1772****, took up his residence in the city of New York. The principal object of his voyage was to* ***examine a copper mine*** *in New Jersey. After a short stay in New York,* ***he went to reside in Boston****, and evidently intended a permanent residence; as he warmly espoused the cause of the Bostonians against his "father land." He was* ***one of the celebrated Boston Tea Party of 1773. He was engaged and wounded (in one arm) in the conflict on Bunker's Hill, while acting as lieutenant of artillery****.*
>
> *Mr. Machin received his first commission in the American service, as second lieutenant in the regiment of artillery, commanded by Col. Henry Knox, which was dated Jan. 18th, 1776. That the patriots of Massachusetts were not only acquainted with Lieut. Machin's skill as an engineer, but actually called it into requisition in laying out the fortifications for the American camp around Boston, the following papers will show ...*

[3] In addition to combat units, other organizations are very much part of the regimental family: regimental training schools, serving members on "extra-regimental employment", regimental associations (retirees), bands and associated cadet groups. [from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regiment].

The next "fact" to examine is whether Machin learned surveying and map making from James Brindley, the British canal engineer. Bell found no such record, but indicates that Brindley's papers did not have dates thus making it very hard to know where to look. I believe it is quite likely but probably not provable that he was a clerk or apprentice to Brindley. Two points jump out at me. First, Brindley's death in 1772 coincides with Machin arriving in America. Coincidence? Second, if not true how would this ever have become part of family history? Brindley was not well known or famous. I suspect to even have known his name you must have had some association with the man. Not something you would dream up. Clearly Machin was a military engineer and a mapmaker. He had to learn this somewhere.

The Simms description of how Machin came to this country and what he did when he got here has definitively been proven by Bell to be wrong. Bell found clear evidence that Machin did not arrive in 1772 after taking a Caribbean cruise but was actually a British soldier and had come with them in 1773. He moved with the British forces to Boston in 1774. And could not possibly have been a member of the Boston tea party.[4] And if he was wounded at Bunker Hill it was on the British side! Machin did desert to the American side[5] and helped John Trumbull draw a map of the British Fortifications around Boston [See Figure TM2.]. This is how he was noticed by George Washington.

Finally Simms gets to Machin's service with the American forces where he is on firmer ground. From this point forward, Simms quotes extensively from letters to and from Thomas Machin. The only ones found in online sources are ones to Gen. George Washington or Gov. George Clinton which is about what you might expect. The others published by Simms are most likely from otherwise unpublished papers.[6] Thomas Machin is best known for the great project for defense of the Hudson – the design, engineering and deployment of the Great Chain at West Point.

---

[4] The list compiled by Benjamin Carp for his book *Defiance of the Patriots: The Boston Tea Party and the Making of America,* includes only those participants who made a written claim of their participation before the year 1853, and excludes a few pre-1853 names that he considered to be unlikely participants. Thomas Machin's is not listed.

[5] Bell, J.L. [http://boston1775.blogspot.com/2013/03/the-truth-about-thomas-machin.html]

[6] Are Thomas Machin's papers lost? There is no single repository but G. Trudgen has provided me with a number of places that hold papers. It would be useful to compile a complete index to and publish any that are not available online currently. Clearly there are some that are no longer in existence or at least their current location is unknown, e.g., the document that indicated only about a 1000 pounds of copper was minted. I know of no papers that discuss any aspects of the minting proposals or actual operations.

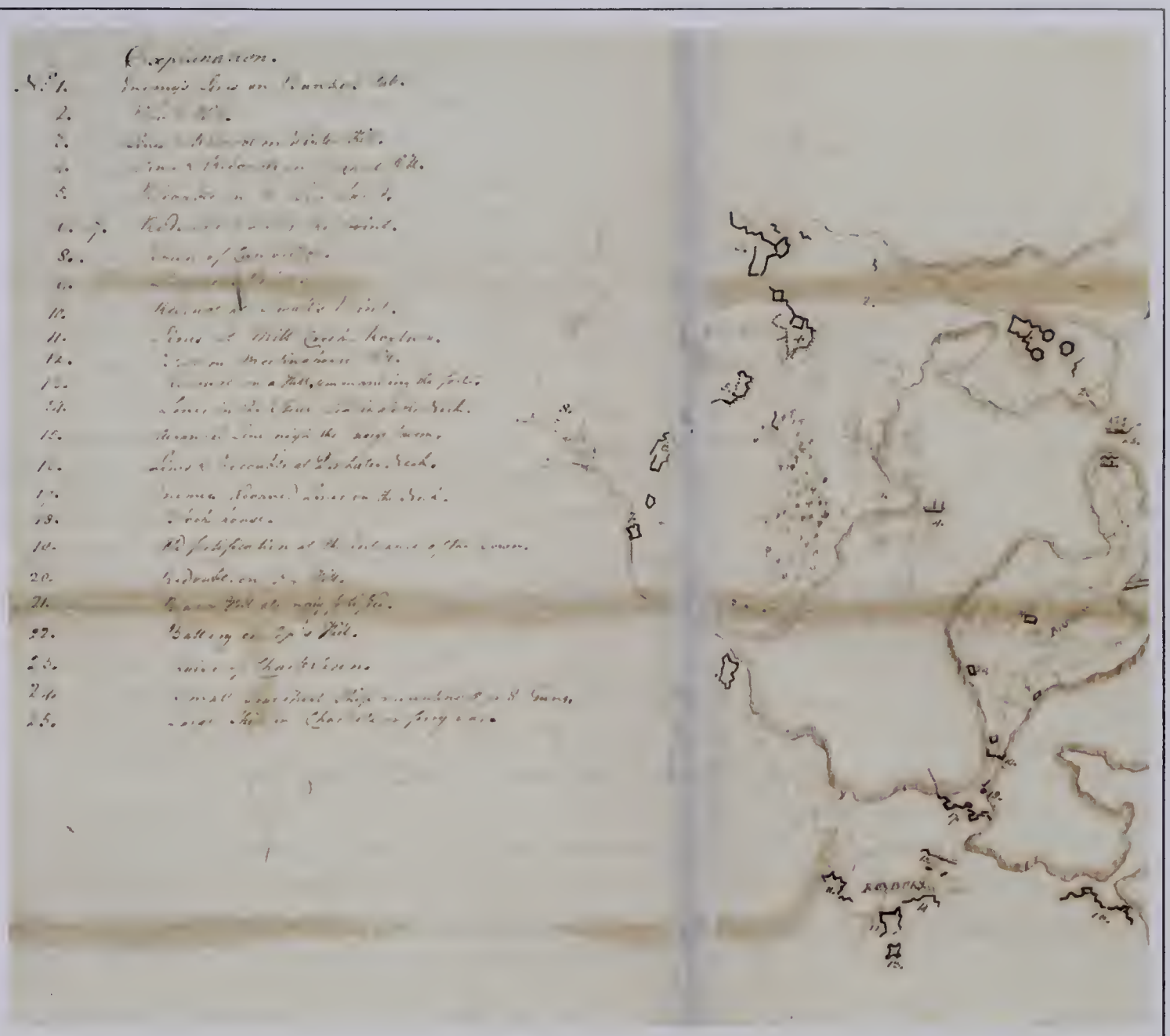


Figure TM2. Machin's Map of British defenses Boston. From Records of the Continental and Confederation Congresses and the Constitutional Convention, 1765 – 1821, Series: Papers of the Continental Congress, 1774 – 1789, File Unit: Letters from General George Washington, Commander in Chief of the Army Item: Sketch of British and American Lines and Fortifications in Boston Area by John Trumbull, 1775

Before looking at the fascinating story of the "Great Chain across the Hudson," it is instructive to look at what other writers had to say about Machin's early life and speculate on where they got that information.

The early numismatic author John Hickcox, wrote the following about Machin (1858):

> *Capt. Machin was an officer of the American army. He was born on the 20th of March, 1744, near Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, England, and came to America in 1772, making his first residence at New York, but soon after removed to Boston, and was one of the Boston tea party of 1773. He acted as lieutenant, and was wounded at the battle of Bunker Hill. He received his first commission as second lieutenant in Col. Knox's regiment*

> *of artillery, Jan. 18, 1776. During the revolution he rendered important assistance in engineering. He superintended the construction and stretching of the great iron chain across the Hudson River, from Pollopel's island to the west bank. In 1779 he took the water level between Albany and Schenectady, with the view of supplying the former city with water, and submitted a plan for that object to the corporation. He married in Aug. 1782, a daughter of James Van Nostrand, of Huntington, L. I. He was commissioned captain by Gov. Clinton, to take rank such from Aug. 21, 1780. In 1783 he settled at New Grange, Ulster county, N. Y., and afterwards removed to the town of Mohawk, and died at Charleston April 3d, 1816.*

Clearly Hickcox was drawing from Simms but adding further information from elsewhere. Machin did marry Sarah Van Nostrand but the fact did not come from Simms.

Simms account is still being cited and quoted, practically verbatim to this day as evidenced by the following piece from a local New York newspaper:

The Daily Gazette By Bob Cudmore Saturday, September 21, 2013.

Charleston's Machin was a war hero

When Gen. George Washington needed to get fortifications completed along the Hudson River highlands in 1777, he sought help from an English immigrant who would go on to become a leading citizen in the Mohawk Valley.

Thomas Machin was "a person of merit," according to a letter written by Washington. Born in Staffordshire in 1744, Machin fought as an English cadet in the battle of Minden, Prussia. Returning home, he learned engineering and left for America in 1772, hoping to work at a New Jersey copper mine.

The next year, however, Machin was in Boston dumping tea into the harbor as part of the Boston Tea Party, a tax protest. When war broke out, Machin served as an artillery officer and was wounded in the battle of Bunker Hill. Using his engineering skills, he helped build Boston's defenses. ...

When he died in 1816, he was buried in a family plot on his Charleston property. The graveyard was neglected over the years and Machin's body was moved in 1905. According to Hartley, historian William Roscoe of Schoharie County had Machin's body dug up and taken to the cemetery in Carlisle, where the remains were reburied with military and Masonic honors. Machin had established the Masonic Union Lodge in Schoharie. Thomas Machin's grave in Carlisle has a marble stone, a Masonic brass plaque and a historical marker.

> *The original Machin family graveyard is still off Corbin Hill Road in Charleston. Charleston historian Whiting said the only recognizable marker is for the wife of Machin's son, a woman named Elizabeth McMichael. Thomas Machin's son Thomas Jr. became prominent in the military, rising to the rank of brigadier general in the War of 1812. Thomas Machin's grandson, Timothy Machin, moved to California in the 1850s and became a member of the legislature and lieutenant governor. While lieutenant governor, he was in charge of San Quentin prison.*

However, this article in addition to quoting Simms, contains additional information that appears factual. The information about the family graveyard and removal to Charleston is quite interesting . . . and is the only place I have found it.

Still looking at who said what, the next author to examine is Samuel Eager, the author of another commonly quoted history of the area, *Outline History of Orange County*, (1846) we find on page 204 the following:

> *...twas also called Machen's Pond. Captain Machen first opened the outlet of the pond, and erected a manufactory to make coppers for change and circulation. The outlet composes a large part of Chamber's Creek, which supplies the New Mills and other manufacturing establishments with water. This outlet was originally the place where the waters of the pond ran off at high water. The natural one is further west at a place called Pine Point, and the stream from the pond crosses the turnpike just east of Mr. Nathaniel Brewster, between five and six miles from Newburgh.*
>
> *Capt. Machen, we believe was an Englishman, and came out before the Revolution as an officer in the British service. During the war he entered the American army as an engineer, and was employed by Congress in 1777, in erecting fortifications in the Highlands, and in stretching the chain across the river at West Point, as appears from the national records of that time.*

Notable are his spelling of the Machin name as Machen which is repeated by many others and is potentially the source of this mistake.[7] But note that Eager does not just quote from Simms. He restricts himself to facts that turn out to be true. How did he know this?

---

[7] As a sideline, I have been tracing the descendants of Thomas Machin and find that in the 1790 census the name is spelled Matchin and in the 1810 census it is spelled Machen. Neither of which match the standard spelling in used today and also found in his published letters, obituary, or will of 1811. Spelling at this period of history was just not as important and more fluid than today.

An even better question is why did other numismatic authors like Crosby use Eager as a source rather than Simms? Was Simms known at the time as a questionable source? I can't find any evidence of that but from Crosby:[8]

> *Capt. Machen, we believe, was an Englishman, and came out before the Revolution as an officer in the British service. During the war he entered the American army as an engineer, and was employed by Congress in 1777, in erecting fortifications in the Highlands, and in stretching the chain across the river at West Point. After the war he came and located at the pond. His operations there, as they were conducted in secret, were looked upon at that time with suspicion, as illegal and wrong.*

Crosby was probably depending on Bushnell's notes and from Dye's Coin Encyclopedia (1885):

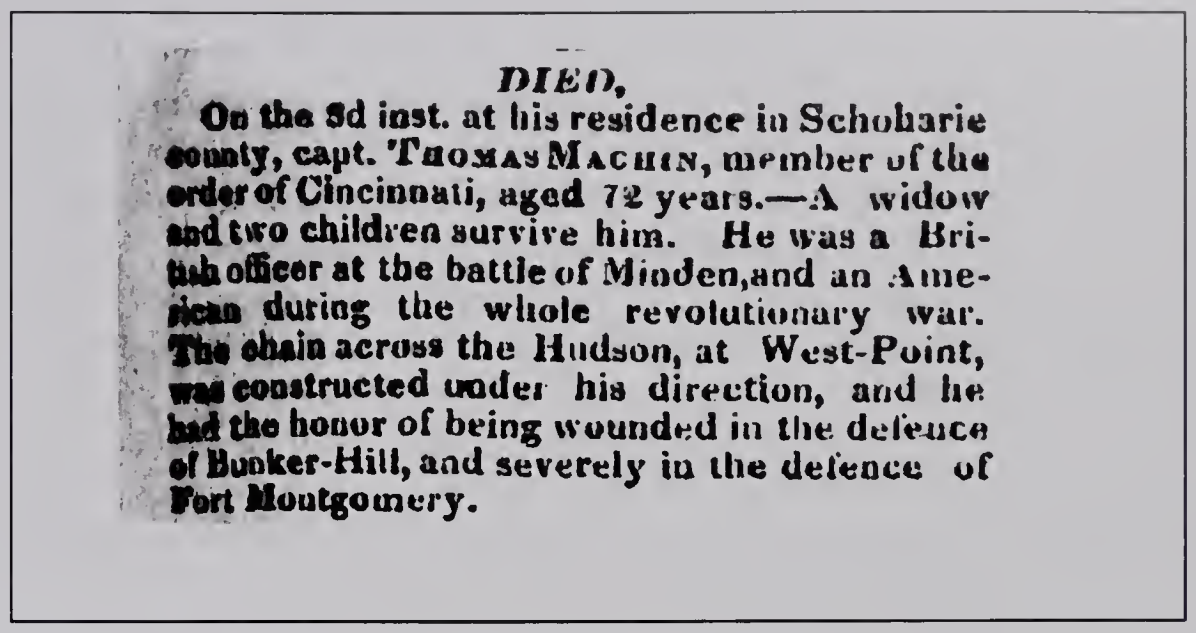
> *This Thomas Machin was an Englishman, who came to America as an officer in the British service, sometime before the Revolution. During the war for Independence, he entered the American army as an engineer, and was employed by Congress in 1777, in fortifying the Highlands of the Hudson, and stretching a great chain across the river at West Point.*

Dye clearly is also quoting from Eager but corrects the spelling to Machin. So some got it right and others did not. But even in accounts that quote the Simms factual errors there are often other nuggets of truth. From his obituary it is clear that some of these facts in question were reported early, including that he was on the American side at Bunker Hill, but notably, not that he was a member of the Boston Tea Party. [See Figure TM3.]. Perhaps the information in the obituary came from his son or maybe it was just word of mouth in the community perhaps akin to today's urban legend. The son was known to have stretched the truth to a considerable extent as evidenced by his participation in a fraud to obtain a pension based on the year his mother died which he was proven to have fabricated.[9]

---

[8] From B.H. Hall quoting Eager (History of Orange County) 4 June 1856.

[9] Bell, J.L., "Thomas, Jr.'s pension application was later deemed fraudulent, so it has to be treated carefully, too." From http://boston1775.blogspot.com/2013/03/the-holes-in-thomas-machins-biography.html



DIED,

On the 3d inst. at his residence in Schoharie county, capt. THOMAS MACHIN, member of the order of Cincinnati, aged 72 years.—A widow and two children survive him. He was a British officer at the battle of Minden, and an American during the whole revolutionary war. The chain across the Hudson, at West-Point, was constructed under his direction, and he had the honor of being wounded in the defence of Bunker-Hill, and severely in the defence of Fort Montgomery.

Figure TM3. From April 23, 1816, Columbia New York [via G. Trudgen].

Back to Thomas Machin who had just switched sides [well after Bunker Hill] and assisted in describing the British fortifications in and around Boston. This is noticed by George Washington who was always on the lookout for new talent. Washington assigned Machin to assist in the critical defense of the Hudson Highlands.

Defense of the Hudson Highlands and the Great Chain

The strategic value of the Hudson River [also known as the North River at that time] corridor and the Hudson Highlands in particular was well known to both the British and to the American forces. The British in 1777 planned a three pronged attack to split the American Colonies along the Hudson. Burgoyne would move south from Canada and Howe would sail north from New York City. A third force commanded by St. Leger would move south along the St. Lawrence from Montreal and then East up the Mohawk with Indian allies. The intent was for these three forces to meet at Albany [See Figure TM4.].[10]

Washington was having none of it. He well knew that defense of the Hudson was critical and was likely to require holding the highlands, a rugged area of craggy mountains halfway between Albany and New York City. Washington wrote as follows:

[10] Palka and Galgano, *The Historical Military Geography of The Hudson Highlands.* U.S. Military Academy, West Point.

Head Quarters, White Marsh, December 2, 1777.

Dear Sir: The importance of the North River in the present contest and the necessity of defending it, are Subjects which have been so frequently and so fully discussed and are so well understood, that it is unnecessary to enlarge upon them. ... it is the only passage by which the Enemy from New York or any part of our Coast, can ever hope to Cooperate with an Army that may come from Canada; That the possession of it is indispensibly essential to preserve the Communication between the Eastern, Middle and Southern States; ... Seize the present opportunity and employ your whole force and all the means in your power for erecting and compleating, as far as it shall be possible, such works and obstructions as may be necessary to defend and secure the River against any future attempts of the Enemy.

I am etc. Go. Washington

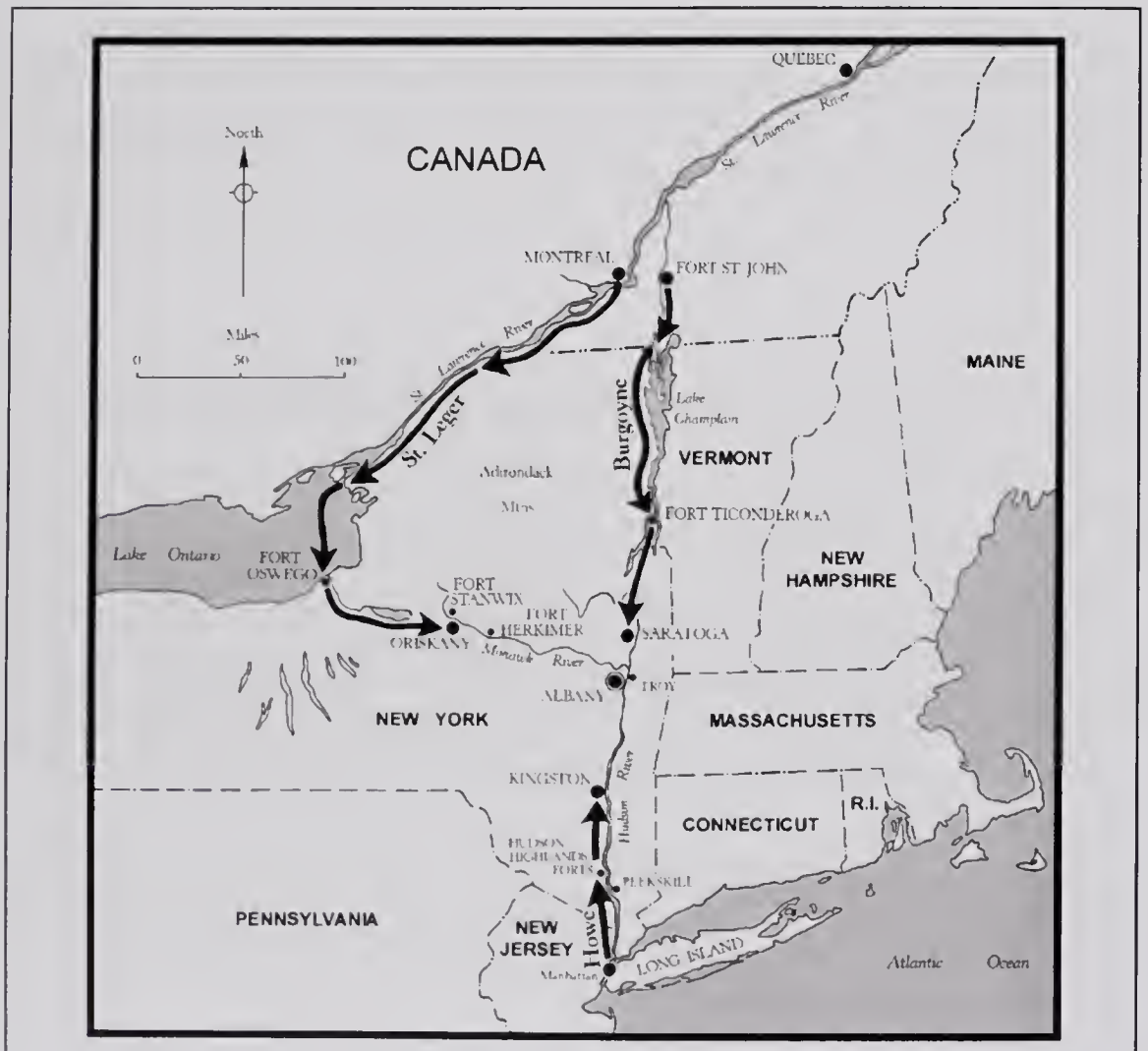


Figure TM4. Map of the British Campaign of 1777 to Split the Colonies at the

According to Simms, Machin was rewarded by Washington, for the skillful manner in which he had laid out for the Americans, the disposition of British fortifications in and around Boston. Clearly Washington was quick to recognize and employ the talented young engineer. As evidenced by this letter from Washington:

Head-Quarters, New York, July 21, 1776.

... I will "this day send up Mr. Machin, a Lieutenant of the Train [Artillery], who has just returned from overseeing the works at Boston. He is as proper a person as any I can send, being an ingenious, faithful hand, and one that has had considerable experience as an Engineer. I shall enjoin on him to attend closely to the business he is going to exe cute. Rest assured, gentlemen, that every assistance in my power shall be most cheerfully granted; and that I am, with esteem, yours, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.
To Messrs. Yates, Jay, Livingston, Tappan, and Livingston, the Secret Committee of the New-York Convention, at Fort Montgomery.

In the following letter, Washington clearly spells out what Machin is to accomplish:

Head-Quarters, New-York, 21st July, 1776.

Sir—You are without delay to proceed to Fort Montgomery, or Constitution, in the Highlands, on Hudson's River, and put yourself under command of Col. George Clinton, or the commanding officer there,—to act as Engineer in compleating such works as are already laid out,—and such others as you, with the advice of Col. Clinton, may think necessary: 'Tis expected and required of you, that you pay close attention to this business, and drive on the works with all possible despatch. In case of an attack from the enemy, or in any action with them, you are to join and act with the Artillery on that station; and to return to your duty in the regiment as soon as you can be spared from the works.

"I am, sir, your most humble serv't.
"GO. WASHINGTON."

This was the start of Machin's participation in one of the most important defensive efforts of the Revolutionary War. His star was on the rise. But there were tough times to come.

Machin began the effort to deploy a chain across the Hudson in the late fall of 1776 at Fort Montgomery. But due to the force of the tides and the width of the river at this point, the chain failed on two separate occasions. Machin indicated in writing he could make it work with some engineering modifications to strengthen the chain by adding anchors and also by changing the angle of the chain with respect to the tidal currents. The chain was modified and successfully deployed in the spring of 1777. But in October of 1777 Sir Henry Clinton sailed up the Hudson with his army and routed the Americans from Fort Montgomery by land. While the chain across the river held, Fort Montgomery and Fort Clinton were not well defended and susceptible to a flanking operation. And that was exactly what Clinton did. In the ensuing battle Machin helped aim and fire the cannons at

Fort Montgomery. He was wounded in the shoulder and escaped. How badly wounded he was, is not clear. He spent several months recovering at George Clinton's home in Orange County.

The British captured both forts and many cannon while destroying or carrying away parts of the chain. Further, the British now controlled this part of the Hudson and were free to come and go as they pleased, burning and pillaging anyone or place along the river. The following year Machin was back at work but now focused on the area of the Hudson around West Point which at that time was uninhabited.

Although the American forces had defeated the initial [1777] British Campaign to split the colonies, the Hudson was still a critical strategic asset. Washington was particularly insistent that another attempt had to be undertaken to stop the British from controlling navigation of the Hudson. Machin drew up a military map of the region [See Figure TM5.] for George Clinton. A report was produced analyzing several other possibilities, all had pros/cons. But the terrain around West Point was far more rugged and would allow the American forces to build Forts that were more easily defended and which would be able to direct interlocking fire onto the river [See Figure TM6.]. Plus, the Hudson at this point was its narrowest and had a sharp turn that forced ships to slow. Machin took charge of specifying and getting the chain manufactured and placed. This would be a much heavier but slightly shorter chain. Each link would weigh about 150lbs and the total chain plus anchors and floats weighed approximately 70 tons [See Figure TM7.]. Also part of Machin's responsibilities was a boom placed in front of the chain to further slow any ships trying to break through.

The design and construction of the defenses were supposed to be proceeding in parallel but dragged on to a degree that Washington had to intervene. The initial military engineer responsible for the defenses was Col. Louis Deshaix de la Radiére, a French recruit of Benjamin Franklin and Silas Deane, who appears to have had little practical experience. He argued with everyone about everything. Eventually Washington sent another military engineer, Thaddeus Kosciuszko, to review what was proposed. Kosciuszko wrote a scathing analysis and eventually was put in charge. It is to his designs that the defensive redoubt and forts were built. [See Figure TM8.].

After this well documented episode there are only glimpses of Thomas Machin for the rest of the war. The chain had to be reeled in before the river froze each winter and then redeployed the following spring for the ensuing five years. Machin appears not to have supervised this activity but rather was detached for special service in central New York after the winter of 1779-80. Reeling in the 70 tons of iron and sodden logs must have been a cold and dangerous operation. This in and of itself was an amazing feat that was accomplished without the aid of modern construction equipment.

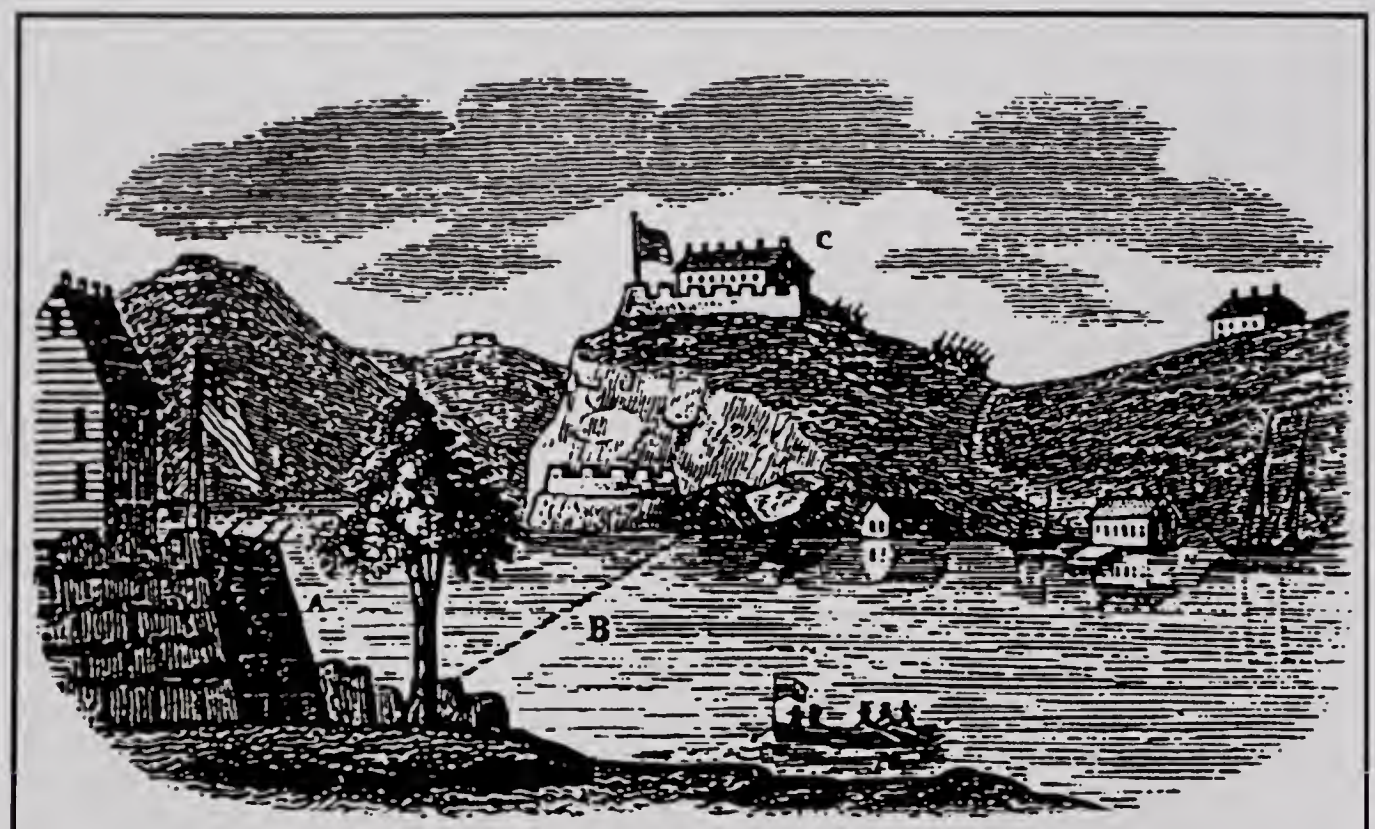
He was known to have been at Yorktown and displayed considerable skill in aiming and hitting one of Cornwallis' ships but little else is known from this period.

In summary, some facts about Machin's life and early military career have been proven wrong but, as has been clearly documented with primary references, Machin was largely responsible for a critical aspect of the defense of the Hudson Highlands. He was a revolutionary war hero. For his service Machin was granted the standard officer's pension and considerable tracts of land in upstate New York, in Montgomery County.

After the minting episode to be covered next, he moved in 1797 from land owned by Gov. Clinton near Newburgh in Ulster County, that we refer to as Machin's Mills, to Charlestown in Montgomery County. He was a land surveyor and you can see in his will, by the way he worded his bequests to his children and grandchildren, that he still retained his descriptive skills. To learn more about his minting activities after the war, keep reading.

Figure TM5. Machin's 1778 Map of the Hudson Highlands [fragment containing area around West Point] and Fort Putnam built to protect the Great Chain.

Fall 2015



West Point, as seen in the fall of 1778.

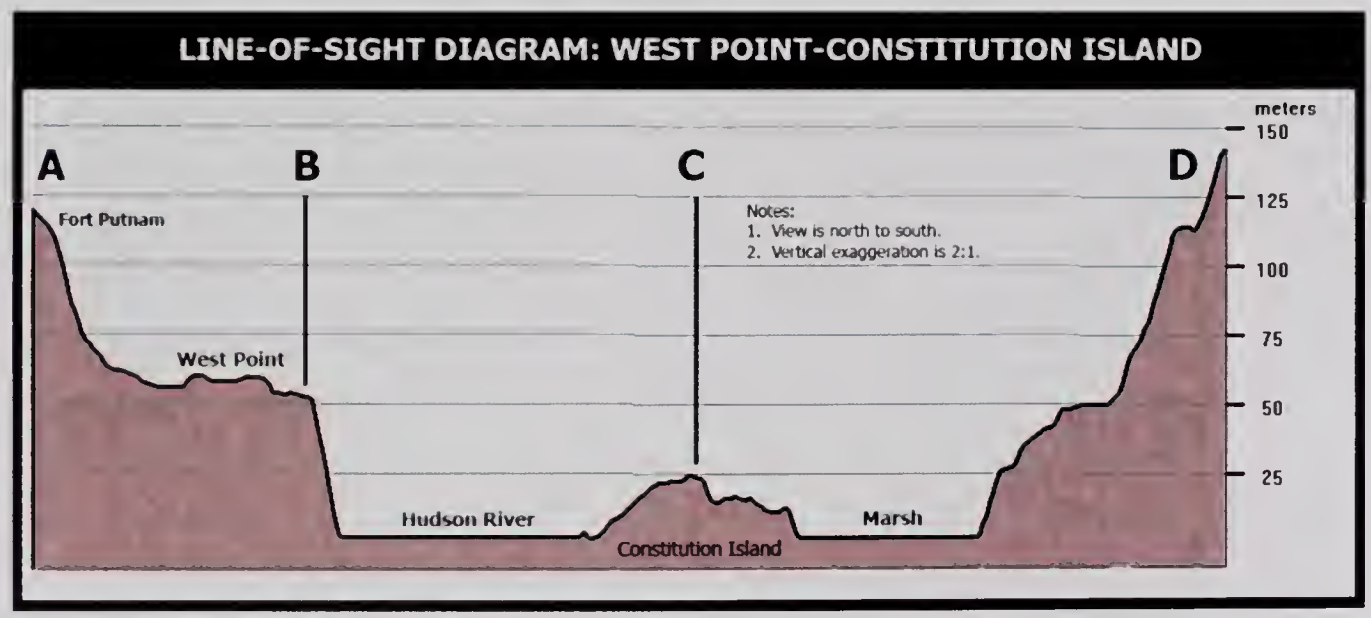


Figure TM6. From Palka and Galgano, *The Historical Military Geography of The Hudson Highlands.*

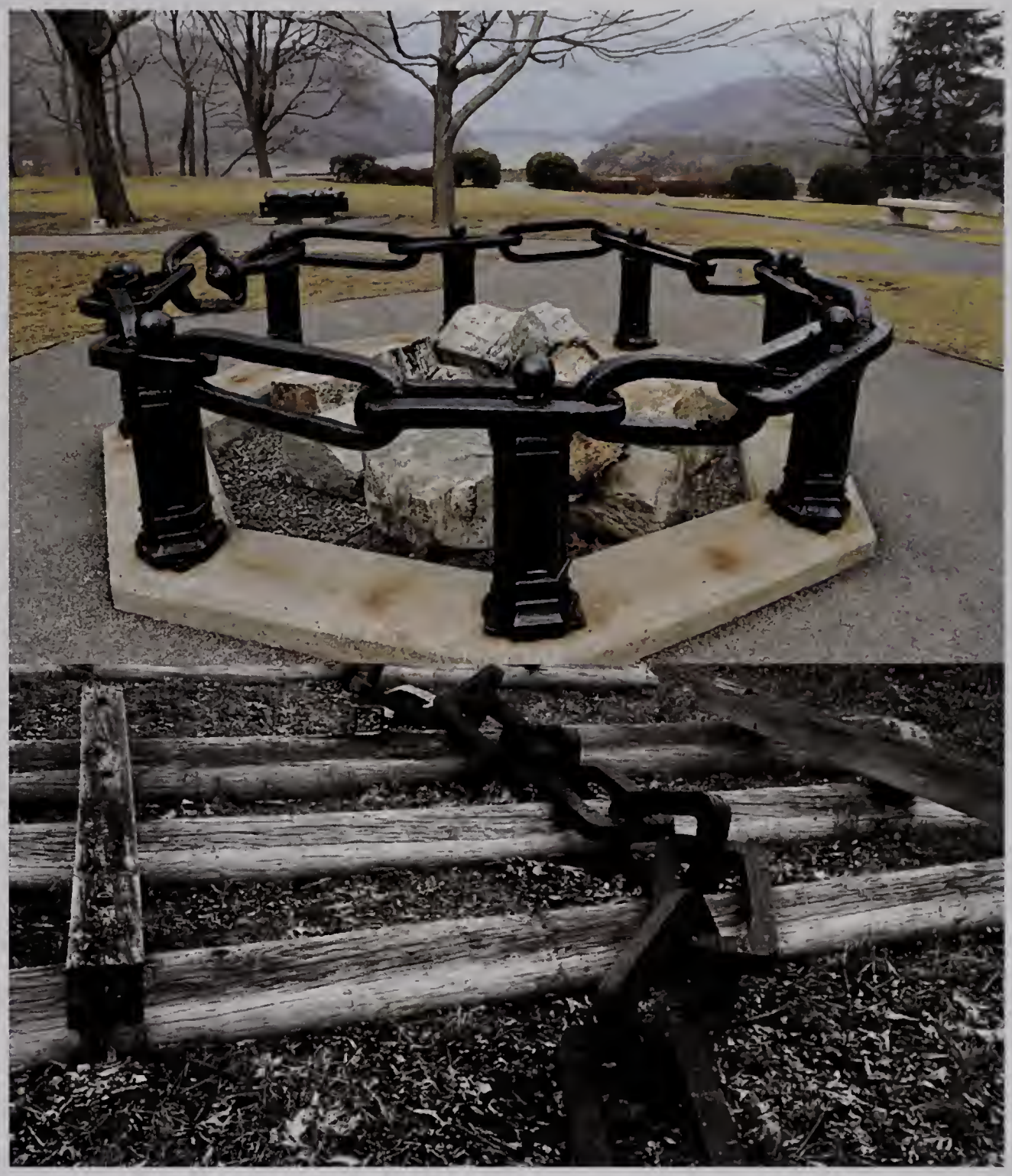


Figure TM7. Chain Memorial West Point [actual links] and replica of how they were deployed.

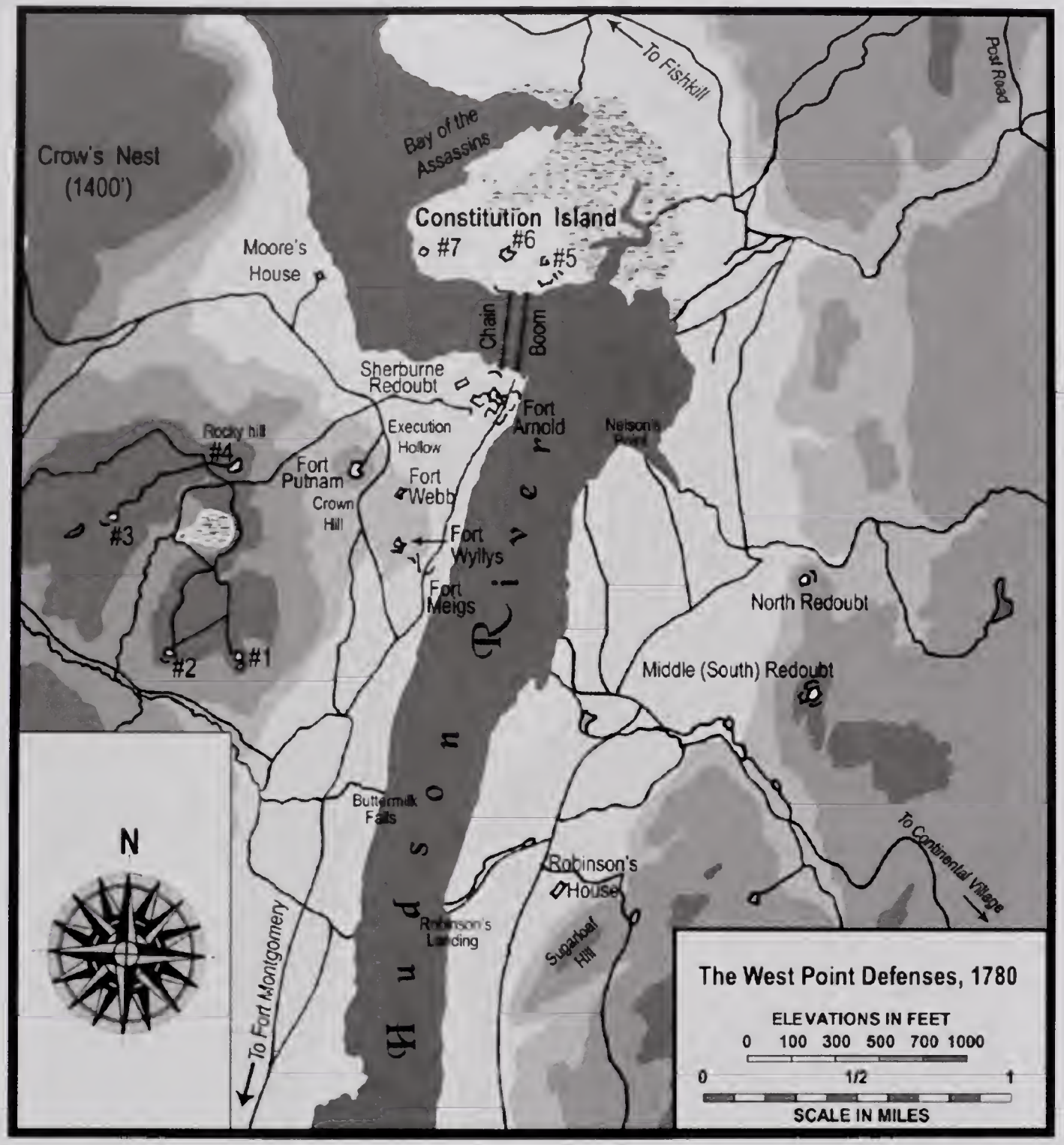


Figure TM8. Location of positions defending the chain and boon, 1780.

Figure TM9. Remnants of Fort Clinton [originally Fort Arnold] at West Point.

In the name of God amen. I Thomas Machin of Charleston in the
county of Montgomery in the State of New York, being in health
of body and of sound memory (blessed be god) do this twenty six day
of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred
and eleven, make & publish this my last Will & Testament in manner
following, that is to say. First I give to my Son Thomas Machin u
W. THOMAS MACHIN. ENGINEER WASHINGTON'S STAFF
FOUNDING FATHER OF MASONRY IN SCHOHARIE COUNTY
FIRST MASTER. SCHOHARIE UNION LODGE
MEMBER BOSTON TEA PARTY
DEDICATED 1999 BY SCHOHARIE VALLEY LODGE #491
1744
1816

Figure TM10. First few lines of Thomas Machin's will and one of the grave markers, added in 1999 – note mention of Boston Tea Party.

BACK TO BASICS
GETTING STARTED WITH SPANISH-COLONIAL COBS

(Michael Shutty, Jr.)

There are rumors that old-school colonial collectors are adding a few Spanish-Colonial cobs to their collections. I have seen it firsthand, as I know at least two New Jersey specialists who have cobs hidden in the back of their coin boxes. In addition, more than a few writers have raised the question in the *C4 Newsletter* of whether cobs deserve to be moved to the front of the box.[1-3] After all, cobs were produced in Mexico beginning in 1536, nearly two generations before James Fort was established in Virginia.

Cobs were certainly in Yankee Doodle's pocket throughout the colonial era, as the mint at Potosí (located in Bolivia) was stamping out jagged pieces until 1773. Despite restrictive English mercantilist policies, cobs readily found their way to North American shores via exchanges with smugglers and pirates coming from the West Indies.[4-6] In fact, many cobs were discovered in the wreckage of the *HMS Feversham*, a British ship that left New York and sunk off of Nova Scotia in 1711; this ship provided a rare glance at what was circulating in North America.[5]

As part of our *Back to Basics* series, I provide a primer for those of you who want to add a few cobs to your collection. But first, let me warn you that cobs represent a roughhewn coinage. Cobs were irregularly shaped by cutting shears and stamped with anvil and hammer dies by inexpert hands. The design elements were often incomplete or dramatically double-struck. The origin of the term "cob" is believed to come from the Spanish phrase *cabo de barra* or (cut from) the end of the bar; alternatively, the Old English word "cob" referred to a small mass of something, suggesting an Anglican etymology.[7]

Let's get started. First, read this article; then read *The Practical Book of Cobs 4th Edition* by Daniel and Frank Sedwick.[7] This guide will give you a concise overview of the collecting field. If you are like me, you will refer to this guide over and over again. For broader coverage, plus hundreds of photographs, you should read Sewall Menzel's encyclopedic tome, entitled *Cobs, Pieces of Eight and Treasure Coins*.[8] My copies of these books are tattered and dog-eared after years of use.

Silver cobs are denominated in *reales* with the venerable piece-of-eight representing the largest coin. Lower-value cobs were produced according to a simple geometric sequence wherein each successive piece was worth twice the previous, ranging from a quarter *real*, to a half, and one, two, four, and eight *reales*. There was a three-*reales* piece that was briefly made in Mexico, but we will save this rare one for the specialist. Instead, we will focus on the most common denominations: one *real* through eight *reales*.

Most silver cobs were minted at three mints: Mexico (1536 to 1733), Lima (1568-1588, 1659-1660, 1684-1752), and Potosí (1573-1773). Other mints that produced silver cobs include Santo Domingo, Panama, Bogotá, Cartagena, and Guatemala; however, these

pieces are scarce to rare and are for the specialist. I will focus on the Mexico, Lima, and Potosí cobs, as these are the pieces that offer the best start for the new collector. Besides, most of the cobs that landed on the shores of North America were from these mints.

If you want just one piece, I would recommend a cob from Mexico that was produced from 1572 to 1733. These cobs show the Hapsburg shield on the obverse and a cross, depicting Castile and Leon (castles and lions) in the quadrants, on the reverse. The earliest pieces are rounded and coin-like, whereas cobs from 1620 onward tend to challenge geometric description. In fact, some pieces are wildly irregular! All denominations, from one to eight *reales*, are available in the Mexican series.

If you decide to collect two pieces, you could add an earlier Mexican piece of the pillars design produced from 1536 to 1572. These cobs show a crossed-shield of Castile and Leon on the obverse and the Pillars of Hercules, representing the straits of Gibraltar, on the reverse. Note that the eight *reales* cob from Mexico is very rare, so only the one, two, and four *reales* are available.

Collections consisting of one or two Mexican Cobs:

1. One cob of the shield and cross type (1 cob).

2. Add to collection #1, one cob of the pillar and waves type (2 cobs).

*Option: Collect one of each available denomination.

If you wanted a type set cobs from each of the three common mints, you could easily extend collection #1 above to include additional pieces from Lima and Potosí. The Lima cobs are available for 1577-1587 with only the eight *reales* demanding a fat wallet. In contrast, the Potosí cobs are available in all denominations across a wide span of 1573 to 1652 with the middle-range pieces selling at very reasonable prices.

If you want to extend collection #2, you can add one more piece from Lima, as this mint produced early-style pillar and waves cobs from 1568 to 1571. The one, two, and four *reales* are expensive but available, whereas the eight *reales* cob is prohibitively rare. Potosí did not produce an early pillars and waves cob.

Collections that include all three mints:

3. Add to collection #1, one cob of the shield and cross type from Lima and Potosí with one *real* to eight *reales* available (3 cobs).

4. Add a scarce pillar and waves cob from Lima to collections #2 and #3 (5 cobs).

*Option: Collect one of each available denomination.

Just when you thought you had a coherent view, I now introduce a new pillar and waves design that was produced at Potosí from 1652 to 1773 and at Lima from 1684 to 1752. The production of under-weight and debased cobs at Potosí in the decades leading up to 1652 resulted in a mint scandal. As a result, two mint administrators were sentenced to death, and others were jailed. The king decreed that a new design be implemented to restore faith in the coinage; consequently, a new version of the pillars and waves design was introduced at all mints except the one in Mexico where the coinage was untainted. The new designs began in 1652 at Potosí. The Lima mint did not start until 1684 since the mint was officially closed until that time. In sum, we have two more cobs to add to the type and/or mint collection.

Collections that include all types (reviewed thus far) from all three mints:

5. Add to collections #3 or #4 two late-style pillar and waves cobs, one each from Potosí and Lima (5 or 7 cobs).

   *Option: Collect one of each available denomination.

At this juncture, the collector has to decide among several options how the collection will grow. One option is to extend collection #5 with several subtypes, some of which are rare (see options #6 and #7). Another option is to extend the collection to include other mints (see option #8). Finally, you could chase after cobs from different shipwrecks (option #9).

6. Add to collection #5 dated variants of Mexican and Potosí cobs that are relatively affordable. Both Mexico and Potosí added dates to their cobs, so it is possible to collect both undated and dated cross and shield cobs. Dated coinage started in 1607 in Mexico and 1617 in Potosí. Be sure to get a specimen that has a clear date with at least the last two digits showing.

7. Add to collection #6 by including two rare pieces that extend the Potosí and Lima series. For Lima, a "Star of Lima" cob dated 1659 (or the rarer 1660 pieces with a slightly different design) provides a unique design born of an attempt to reduce a coin shortage and convince the king that the mint should be reopened. For Potosí, a transitional cob dated 1652 provides a unique design that represents a series within a series, as there were no less than seven distinct subtypes. I leave it to the reader to explore these rare pieces, but be forewarned, you are now entering specialist territory wherein a fat wallet is needed.

8. Add to collection #5 or #6 one example of cob coinage from the other mints. The easiest step is to add a cob from Guatemala where the first cobs were produced in 1733. These cobs are available even though they were produced for a short period of time. Some have argued that these pieces are better described as klippes (that is, hand-cut flans struck on a screw press), but we will not debate that here. Next, consider the Columbian cobs from Bogotá and Cartagena; they are rare and expensive but available. If you are patient, the cobs from Santiago and Panama are very rare and become available once or twice a year.

9. Add to any of the above collections, several cobs from different shipwrecks. Among the Spanish Galleons you have the *Atocha* (1622), *Capitana* (1654), and *Consolacion* (1681); plus, you have the *1715 Fleet* disaster. Several Dutch East Indiaman including the *Vergulde*

Draeck (1656), *Vliegenthart* (1735), and *Rooswijk* (1739) have yielded cobs. Finally, some English warships carried cobs, notably the 90-gun *Association* (1707). Daniel and Frank Sedwick list over 50 shipwrecks that have yielded silver cobs.[7] Obviously, this is a collecting specialty by itself, as some folks try to get as many shipwrecks as possible.

I hope this review has stimulated your desire to add one or a few (or many!) cobs to your colonial collection. I omitted the lovely special presentation issues that are sometimes called *Royals*, but some colonial collectors have been drawn to these from the start.[9] There are many paths, and I am sure that if you get one or two cobs, you will want more. I recommend reading the excellent historical studies provided by Mossman[5] and Nipper[6] to appreciate how entrenched Spanish-Colonial cobs were in the North American economy throughout the colonial era. A good place to start is with the excellent overview provided in the *C4 Newsletter* by Hoover.[4]

If you wanted just one cob, an eight *reales* cob from Mexico with the shield and cross design is an excellent choice:

Mexico shield and cross eight *reales*. Photo by author.

An older Mexican one *real*, two *reales* or four *reales,* with the pillars and waves design on the reverse makes a nice complement:

Early Mexican pillars and waves four *reales*. Photo courtesy of Heritage Auctions.

You can add eight *reales* cobs with the shield and cross designs from Lima and Potosí, as shown on the following page.

(Above) Lima shield and cross eight *reales*. Photo courtesy of Sedwick Auctions.
(Below) Potosí shield and cross eight *reales*. Photo by author.

You can add two late pillar and waves eight *reales* cobs from Lima and Potosí to complete a major type set from each of the three most prolific mints:

(Above) Late Lima pillars and waves eight *reales*. Photo courtesy of Heritage Auctions.

(Below) Late Potosí pillars and waves eight *reales*. Photo by author.

Below are a rare pillars and waves type, two *reales* from Lima and a dated shield type eight *reales* from Potosí. Dates were added to Potosí cobs in 1617. This cob is dated 1629. Note the base of the "2" and the curve of the "9" at the eleven to twelve o'clock position on the cross side. Rarely does the whole date show on these early cobs:

(Above) Rare Lima pillars and waves two *reales*. Photo by author.
(Below) 1629-dated shield and cross Potosí eight *reales*. Photo by author.

The piece below represents a one-year transitional type, eight *reales* cob from Potosí. This piece reflects a return to the original design used in Mexico. Several varieties exist in the transitional series, all dated 1652.

One-year transitional type Potosí eight *reales*. Photo by author.

The cob at the top of the following page represents the "Star of Lima" type amd was made in 1659. It was an unauthorized coinage meant to urge Phillip IV to reopen the Lima mint. A second issue, also with a unique design, was made in 1660. The king did not approve of the coinage, but the Lima mint did reopen in 1684 to produce the familiar cross and pillar coinage.

Star of Lima eight *reales*. Photo courtesy of Heritage Auctions.

The final example is an eight *reales* cob from Potosí that came from the *Atocha*, a Spanish galleon that sank in a 1622 hurricane, off the Florida keys:

Potosí eight *reales* cob from the *Atocha*. Photo by author.

Endnotes:

1. Jones, Peter. What are Colonial Coins and How Should We Classify Them? *C4 Newsletter*, Spring 2011 (19)1, pp. 48-54.
2. Williams, Ray. What is a Colonial Coin? *C4 Newsletter*, Winter 2011 (19)4, p. 43.
3. Kays, Tom. What is a Colonial Coin? – Revisited. *C4 Newsletter*, Spring 2012 (20)1, pp. 45-53.
4. Hoover, Oliver. Coins of Our Forefathers: The Circulating Coinage of North America Before 1780. *C4 Newsletter,* Spring 2015 (23)1, pp. 5-17.
5. Mossman, Phillip. *Money of the American Colonies and Confederation: A Numismatic, Economic & Historical Correlation.* New York, NY: American Numismatic Association, 1993.
6. Nipper, Will. *In Yankee Doodle's Pocket: The Myth, Magic and Politics of Money in Early America.* Conway, AR: Bowmanstone Press, 2008.
7. Sedwick, Daniel and Sedwick, Frank. *The Practical Book of Cobs* (4th Ed.). Winter Park, FL: Daniel Frank Sedwick, 2007.
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9. Ish, Buell. More than Double the Fun 3: 1721Y Eight-Reales from Potosí. Cobs – A Typical Strike and a Royal of the Same Year, Assayer, Mint, and Denomination. *C4 Newsletter*, Fall 2014 (22)3, pp. 17-22.

PRINTERS' ERRORS ON NEW JERSEY COLONIAL BILLS 1746 TO 1764

(Stuart Hanebuth)

The Colony of New Jersey issued seventeen emissions of paper money between July 2, 1746 and April 16, 1764 of nearly identical design. In that period there are several interesting printer's errors, many of which are listed in "The Early Paper Money of America" (Newman, 2008) along with some new errors which will be described in this article. Unlike the Maryland emissions of 1767, 1770 and 1774 where secret marks were consistently incorporated, these typographical errors are generally accepted as errors because they cannot be found consistently on bills of a given denomination and emission.

The 1746 emission was authorized for military expenses and to replace worn bills; these were printed in Benjamin Franklin's print shop and are extremely rare today. The fourteen subsequent emissions, frequently referred to as "War Issues," were authorized between January 1755 and April 1762. These bills were printed in James Parker's Woodbridge, New Jersey print shop. There are 238 different date, denomination and plate combinations printed by Parker during this period, their distribution is shown in Table 1.

Emission Date	Total number of Plate and Denomination Combinations
May 15, 1755	24
September 8, 1755	24
January 26, 1756	24
June 22, 1756	20
April 12, 1757	9
June 14, 1757	8
November 20, 1757	9
May 1, 1758	8
October 20, 1758	21
April 10, 1759	9
April 12, 1760	19
April 23, 1761	11
April 8, 1762	11
December 31, 1763	23
April 16, 1764	18

Table 1 - Plate and denomination combinations by emission

These emissions were authorized to pay for military action against the French, first in the Ohio Territory and later in Montreal[1]. The Treaty of Paris officially ended the French and Indian war on February 10, 1763. Following the conclusion of the war New Jersey authorized two additional emissions, the first on December 31, 1763 and the second on April 16, 1764 to replace worn bills from the earlier "War Issues.. In September 1764 the British Parliament passed The Currency Act of 1764 which effectively brought the end to the easy emission of paper money in the colonies until the beginning of the American Revolution. The April 16, 1764 emission was also the last emission of New Jersey currency printed by James Parker.

[1]New Jersey was not the only state that issued paper money during this time to pay for military action, Connecticut, Delaware, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and South Carolina also authorized emissions to support military action against the French.

Bills from the May 15, 1755, September 8, 1755 and January 26, 1756 emissions, or the first, second and third "War Issues" are all quite scarce to non-existent. These bills represent 72 of the 238 possible combinations; only one of these was examined in preparation of this article.[2]. Many of the remaining "War Issues," along with the 1763 and 1764 emissions, are generally obtainable with varying degrees of rarity. In many cases the lower denomination bills are more difficult to obtain and are often in lower grades than the higher denominations, a sign of the importance of small change bills in daily colonial New Jersey life.

In *The Early Paper Money of America*, Newman describes several printers' errors on the bills of this period. The most common of which is the symbol of the sun that was used on the three pound bills. On several of the emissions the sun is actually marked Six Pounds, instead of Three Pounds. Interestingly counterfeiters corrected this error and three pound bills printed with the words three pounds around the sun are all counterfeits (Gladfelter, CNL December 2009). The December 31, 1763 emission has two published printer's errors on the 18 pence bills. There were 10,000 18 pence bills authorized which were printed from four plates, A,B,C and D. The first error is found on the front of the B Plate bills, where an italic "t" was used in place of a plain "t" in the word "penny-weight."

"PTATE"

The second is on the D plate bills where "PLATE" is misspelled "PTATE". (See Figure 1) These bills are fairly easy to obtain and are often found in uncirculated condition. Un-described in "The Early Paper Money of America" are five interesting printer's errors.

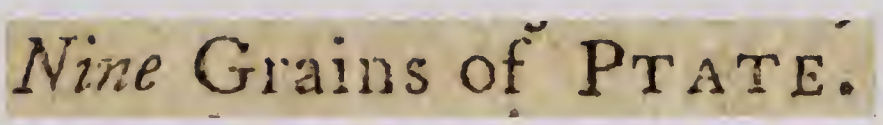


Figure 1 - Misspelling of "PLATE" as "PTATE" on December 31, 1763 Plate D 18 pence bills - Image ha.com

Two minor errors can be found on June 22, 1756 one shilling bills. There were 9,750 one shilling bills authorized which were printed from three plates, A, B and C. The printer's errors can be found on the Plate A and B bills. These bills are also fairly easy to obtain and bills from this emission are often offered in higher grades.

[2] The bill examined was a January 26, 1756 15 shilling bill. The bill did not have a legible plate and only the face of the bill remained. Because the plate was not identifiable all 15 shilling bills of this emission have been listed as unreviewed.

"ofSilver"

The first error can be found on the June 22, 1756 one shilling Plate A bills. In the text on the face of the bills the space between "of" and "silver" has been omitted as shown in Figure 2; an example of a bill printed from B plate is shown in Figure 3 and exhibits the proper spacing.

Figure 3 - "ofSilver" as printed on the July 22, 1756 Plate A One Shilling Bills – Image ha.com

Figure 2 – "of Silver" as printed on the July 22, 1756 Plate B One Shilling Bills – Image ha.com

The Upside-Down "s"

Another relatively minor error exists in the text of the June 22, 1756 one shilling Plate B bills. The letter "s" in grains was inserted upside down with the wider base at the top as shown in figure 5 with a properly printed "s" shown in figure 4.

Figure 5 - The Right-side-up "s" as printed on the July 22, 1756 Plate C One Shilling Bill – Image ha.com

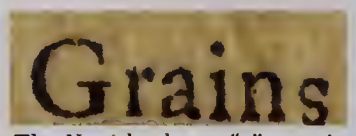


Figure 4 - The Upside-down "s" as printed on the July 22, 1756 Plate B One Shilling Bill – Image ha.com

The 1757 Comma

Thirty shilling bills of the June 14, 1757 emission printed from the D Plate exhibit a variation in the text from the A, B and C plates. The error is the use of a comma instead of a period following James Parker's name, as shown in Figure 6. There were 1,000 thirty shilling bills authorized and they were printed from four plates. All denominations from this emission are relatively difficult to locate; the Thirty shilling is the most commonly offered denomination.

Figure 6 - The reverse of a June 14, 1757 Plate D Thirty Shilling Bill, showing the comma after Parker's last name instead of the period found on the other denominations

Only a few examples of the six shilling B plate bill are known in collections. (Gladfelter, 2014-2015)

The Month of "Aprii"

Figure 7 - An example of an April 12, 1760 Plate B Six Shilling Bill – Image Author

April 12, 1760 six shilling bills, part of the eleventh war issue, contain an interesting misspelling. Bills printed from the B plate have the date misspelled as "Aprii" as shown in Figures 7 and 8. There was an authorized emission of 7,500 bills of this denomination printed from two plates A and B. Low denomination bills from this emission are scarce and generally found in lower grades. Only a few examples of the six shilling B plate bill are known in collections. (Gladfelter, 2014-2015)

Figure 8 - Close-up view of the date printed on the April 12, 1760 Plate B Six Shilling Bill – Image Author

The '63 Triple-O

Figure 9 - An example of the reverse of a December 31, 1763 Plate B Twelve Shilling Bill – Image Author

A much more common and somewhat more interesting error is the Triple-O misspelling on the reverse of December 31, 1763 Plate B twelve shilling bills. There was an authorized emission of 6,000 twelve shilling bills from two printing plates, A and B.

On the reverse of all Plate B bills the city of Woodbridge is misspelled with three o's as "Wooodbridge" as shown in Figures 9 and 10. The extra "o" can be a little difficult to spot at first glance, with the o's and "d" forming almost a single character in the mind.[3] Bills of all denominations from the December 1763 emission are generally easy to obtain, even in higher grades. While this error is not described in Newman it has known among colonial currency specialists for some time.

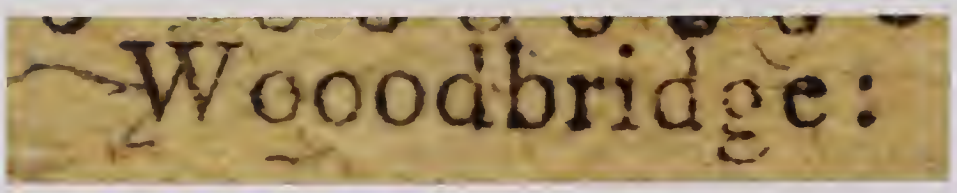


Figure 10 - Close-up view of the spelling of "Woodbridge" on the reverse of a December 31, 1763 Plate B Twelve Shilling Bill – Image Author

[3] Like many such errors, the triple-o is much easier to spot if the text is examined upside down, this forces the reader's mind to resolve each character individually, rather than the quick identification of the entire word.

The '64 Triple-O

Figure 11 - An example of the reverse of an April 16, 1764 Twelve Shilling Bill – Image Author

Surprisingly in the April 16, 1764 emission, James Parker's final printing of New Jersey bills, the Triple-O error is repeated on the twelve shilling bills, as shown in Figures 11 and 12. This was a relatively small emission with just 1,372 bills authorized and printed from a single plate. Low denomination bills from this emission are also quite scarce and generally found in lower grades. Few examples of the twelve shilling bill are known in collections.

The most interesting part of this error is that it was not a result of the reuse of the December 31, 1763 plate; rather the type was reset for the April 16, 1764 emission. An examination of the typeset ornaments around the leaf print provides clear evidence that the type was reset between these two emissions.

Figure 12 - Close-up view of the spelling of "Woodbridge" on the reverse of an April 16, 1764 Twelve Shilling Bill – Image Author

It is unclear how this error could have occurred twice on consecutive emissions of the same denomination, but it seems unlikely to be a coincidence. One theory is that the apprentice in the print shop was given an example of the December 31, 1763 Plate B Twelve Shilling bill and instructed to copy the design for the April 16, 1764 bill.

There are still many New Jersey bills from the time period which have not been examined for the presence of printer's errors. Of the 238, only 124 have been examined for printer's errors, largely due to the scarcity of the bills. Printer's errors can also be found on bills from the other colonies. Listed examples exist from Delaware, Massachusetts, North Carolina and Virginia; and more undiscovered printer's errors undoubtedly exist on colonial paper money just waiting for an observant eye to discover them.

Bibliography:

Gladfelter, D. D. (December 2009). New Jersey's Numismatic Sun. *The Colonial Newsletter*, pp. 3461- 68.

Gladfelter, D. D. (2014). Personal Communications.

Newman, E. P. (2008). *The Early Paper Money of America.* Iola, WI: Krause Publications.

THE SIGNERS OF THE 1776 NEW JERSEY BILLS

(Ray Williams)

As I have shared with many of you, I was inspired to pursue assembling a set of colonial bills - one from each of the 13 colonies - while admiring a framed set at a friend's home. I succeeded in completing my set after a couple years of fun searching. It is appropriate that I start the draft of this article as the July 4th weekend is almost here. As collectors of "colonial" coins and paper money, I think we all hold the year 1776 in great esteem. I decided to attempt to assemble a set of 1776 NJ bills that would show the signatures of all the authorized signers for the year.

There are two modern reference books that deal with the bills of the colonies and the Continental Congress. The first is *Paper Money of the United States* by Arthur and Ira Friedberg. This reference not only deals with the paper monies of the colonies and confederation, it also covers all federal paper money to date. It gives pricing (as the Red Book does for coins) and has a numbering system that is used by most of the paper money grading services. With respect to colonial currency, there are two pages of introductory text and every denomination of every authorized paper money has its individual number. You can use the pricing guide as a relative rarity of each bill that you might run across and this makes an excellent checklist for all of the early paper money. The 19th edition in my library has 20 pages and 26 images devoted to the early currency.

The second modern reference is *The Early Paper Money of America* by Eric Newman. Newman's book is strictly on colonial and Continental Currency bills. My 5th edition is 495 pages in length, and has hundreds of images (many in color), details of issuing authorities, legislations and acts, number of authorized bills (when known), lots of history and much more. Whether you collect early paper money or not, this reference should be in every serious C4 member's personal library. But what is pertinent to this article is that the Newman book lists the authorized signers (when known) for each issue.

Newman devotes 2 1/2 pages to the NJ bills authorized on February 20, 1776 and March 25, 1776. He states that the February legislation authorized the printing of £50,000 of bills, in four different denominations, and authorized 13 men to sign them. The 13 names are listed. The March legislation appears to authorize £100,000 of bills to be printed in nine different denominations, and 7 men were authorized to sign them. John Hart was the only person authorized to sign both issues, so I would *only* need to attempt to obtain 19 different signatures to complete the set of autographs.

Off and running, I searched for the signatures I needed to add to what I already owned. Newman warns in his text that although Abraham Clark is listed as being an authorized signer, there are no known examples of his signatures on bills. As hard as I searched, there were six names that I couldn't locate for the February issue! These were: Caleb Camp, Alexander Chambers, Abraham Clark, Joseph Ellis, Abraham Hunt and William Tucker.

I searched for and found online the original February 1776 legislation to see what it had to say. In 1776, New Jersey was politically divided into East and West Jersey, each having its own treasurer for the disbursement of state funds. For East Jersey, the authorized signers were Hendrick Fisher, Azariah Dunham and John Dennis (as Treasurer). For West Jersey, Samuel Howe, John Hart and Samuel Tucker (as Treasurer) were the authorized signers. There were two alternate signers authorized in case one of these six signers could not fulfill their obligation - John Covenhoven (who did sign some bills for East Jersey) and Joseph Hugg (for West Jersey). That makes a total of eight authorized signers, including Hugg who was not in Newman's original listing of 13. Was I searching for signatures that don't exist?

Over breakfast and many emails, I worked with Stu Hanebuth on my dilemma. Stu has a passion for colonial paper and possesses awesome research skills. Making a spreadsheet of known bills, we could only find the signatures of seven of the authorized eight signers (missing Hugg) in the 1776 legislation. The six of Newman's listed signers that weren't in the original authorization were not on bills we were able to locate for our survey.

On a side note, the original legislation provided for a committee to approve of, and hire, a printer. The committee was composed of four members: Hendrick Fisher was the only member who signed bills; Richard Smith, John Pope and James Starling were involved only in hiring the printer. This legislation also stated that each of the signers were to receive half of the print run of sheets of bills and to apply their signatures <u>at their homes.</u> This "work at home" order was intentioned to speed up the signing process. Once the first signature was applied, those sheets were given to the other signer. Once two signatures were on the bills, the sheets were to be delivered to the treasurer for their state division. The Treasurer would keep these bills and place his signature on only £1,000 worth of bills at a time, as needed. This is confirmed by our survey revealing that on all bills with three signatures, the third signature is always one of the two treasurers. It also explains why Samuel Tucker had both three signature bills and two signature bills when the British Army captured part of the NJ State Treasury (only the two signature bills) on December 9, 1776. (See C4 Newsletter V.16 No.4, Winter 2008, p.14.)

How can we account for the six names Newman lists which we do not find in the original legislation? These names were not an editing mistake where they could have been copied from the previous or the following contemporary legislation. But the names appear in all 5 editions of Early Paper Money of America.

I've made a chart with the expert help of Randy Clark. This chart lists the thirteen names in Newman and other signer names I found in the February 20, 1776 legislation. At this point I think I need to make the reader aware of an 1865 book authored by Henry Phillips on the topic of colonial paper money, *Historical Sketches of the Paper Currency of the American Colonies*. Phillips also lists signers (and I've included the signers he identified in the chart). There are several other names in the legislation that don't pertain to signing, but I chose to include in the chart.

What I glean from the chart is that the six signers listed by Newman, but not in the original legislation, are all commissioners of either East or West Jersey. I found no legislation that gave commissioners the authority to sign bills.

At 104 years of age, Eric Newman is still active in numismatics and retains his passion for American coins and currency. I was told that Eric isn't communicating with the general public anymore, as it is just a little too much for him. So... I contacted Maureen Levine, a numismatist and personal friend of Eric. Shortly thereafter, she explained my theory when she visited St. Louis. Eric came to the conclusion that when writing the first edition of his book, he most likely used the signers listed in Phillips' 1865 book. Thus Phillips' error was perpetuated.

Maureen advised me that Eric was grateful that this error was brought to his attention and planned for its correction in the next edition of his book. Eric's sole intention is to educate the numismatic public and he always welcomes accurate information.

As always, I encourage collectors to contact me with further observations, questions and corrections. Also, when using reference books to study your coins, take some time and have fun reading the sources they provide and searching for contemporary documentation. In this digital age, lots of research can be done, with coffee in hand, from the comfort of your recliner.

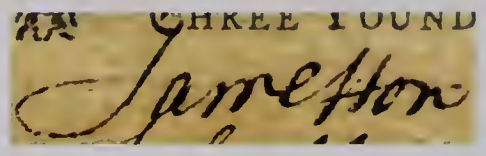
NAME in Feb 1776 Legislation	Authorized signer for Feb 1776 NJ bills **per Newman** [1]	Authorized signer for Feb 1776 NJ bills **per Phillips** [2]	Authorized signer for Feb 1776 NJ bills **per Legislation** [3]	Signatures seen on actual Feb 1776 NJ bills	Commissioner of East or West Jersey	Committee to select & approve a printer for Feb 1776 NJ bills
Azariah Dunham	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	East	
Hendrick Fisher	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	East	Yes
John Hart	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Samuel Howe [4]	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Samuel Tucker (Treas. of West Jersey)	Yes		Yes	Yes		
John Dennis (Treas. of East Jersey)	Yes		Yes	Yes		
John Covenhoven [5]	Yes		Yes [Alternate]	Yes		
Joseph Hugg			Yes [Alternate]			
Caleb Camp	Yes	Yes			East	
Abraham Clark	Yes	Yes			East	
Alexander Chambers	Yes	Yes			West	
Joseph Ellis	Yes	Yes			West	
Abraham Hunt	Yes	Yes			West	
William Tucker	Yes	Yes			West	
Richard Smith						Yes
John Pope						Yes
James Starling						Yes

Notes:
1. Eric Newman; Early Paper Money of America, 5th ed., 2008, p. 259
2. Henry Phillips, Historical Sketches of the Paper Currencyof the American Colonies, 1865, p. 95
3. Per actual February 20, 1776 legislation
4. Spelled "Howe' in original legislation and Phillips 1865, spelled "How" in Newman Text
5. Spelled "Covenhoven" in original legislation, spelled "Cowenhoven" in Newman Text

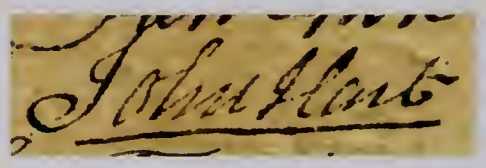
SIGNERS FOR THE FEBRUARY 20, 1776 NEW JERSEY BILLS

THREE POUNDS.
THREE POUNDS. No. 2308
THIS BILL, by an Ordinance of the Provincial Congress, shall pass current in all Payments within the Colony of NEW-JERSEY, for THREE POUNDS, Proclamation Money. Dated the 20th Day of FEBRUARY 1776.
THREE POUNDS.
THREE POUNDS.
THREE POUNDS.

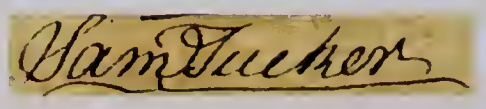
Samuel How



John Hart

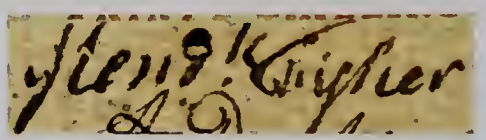


Samuel Tucker

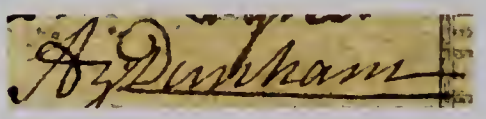


THIRTY SHILLINGS. No. 5367
THIS Bill, by an ORDINANCE of the Provincial Congress, shall pass current in all Payments within the COLONY of NEW-JERSEY, for THIRTY SHILLINGS, Proclamation Money. Dated the 20th Day of February 1776.
THIRTY SHILLINGS.
THIRTY SHILLINGS.

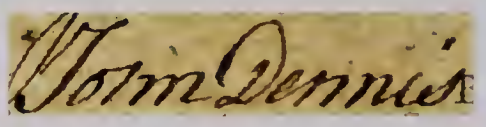
Hendrick Fisher



Azariah Dunham



John Dennis



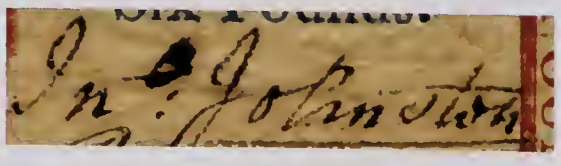
SIX SHILLINGS. No. 4300
THIS BILL, by an Ordinance of the Provincial Congress, shall pass current in all Payments within the Colony of NEW-JERSEY, for SIX SHILLINGS, Proclamation Money. Dated the 20th Day of February 1776.
SIX SHILLINGS.
SIX SHILLINGS.

John Covenhoven

SIGNERS FOR THE MARCH 25, 1776 NEW JERSEY BILLS

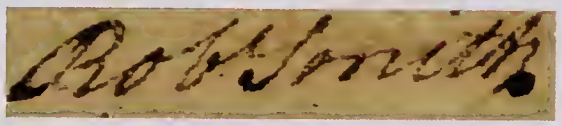
SIX POUNDS
THIS BILL of SIX POUNDS Proclamation,
is emitted by a LAW of the Colony of NEW-JERSEY,
passed in the Fourteenth Year of the Reign of his Majesty
King GEORGE the Third. Dated MARCH 25, 1776.
Six Pounds.
SIX POUNDS.
NEW-JERSEY.

Jonathan Johnston



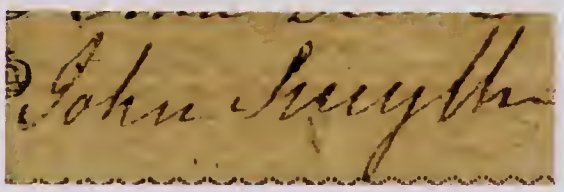
Joseph Smith

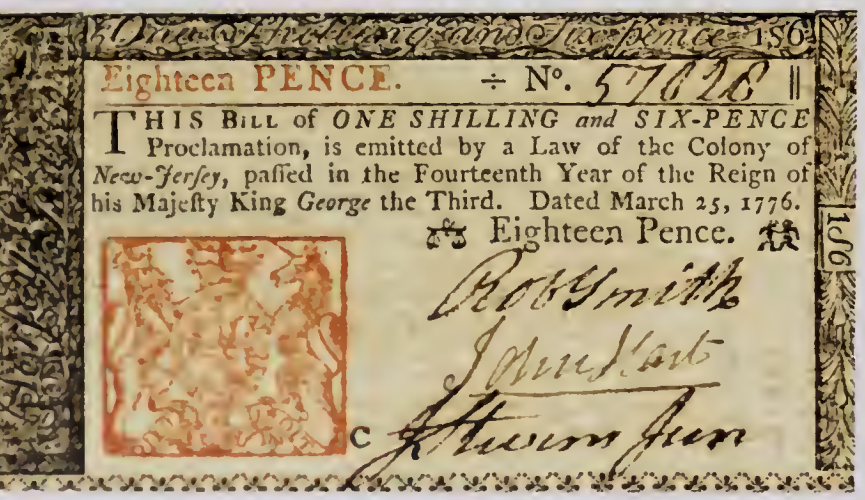
Robert Smith



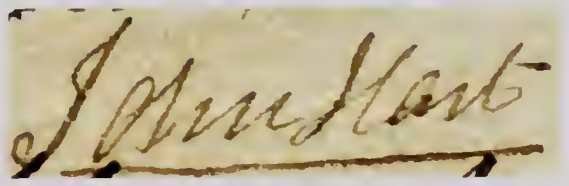
Jonathan Deare

John Smyth

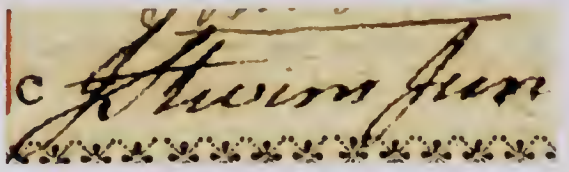



FIFTEEN SHILLINGS.
THIS Bill of FIFTEEN SHILLINGS Proclamation,
is emitted by a LAW of the COLONY of NEW-JERSEY,
passed in the Fourteenth Year of the Reign of his Majesty
King GEORGE the THIRD. Dated MARCH 25, 1776.
FIFTEEN SHILLINGS.

John Hart



John Stevens Jr.



THE 1787 NEW JERSEY MARIS 72-aa "A SEMI-NEW DISCOVERY"

(Michael Wierzba)

Years ago, actually 1991 to be exact, the 1st NJ Symposium occurred in northern New Jersey, set up by John Lorenzo. Many NJ specialists attended, discussing the rarities and condition census of all the R-6 and better NJ die varieties.

During the symposium, Bill Anton began discussing a unique NJ die variety housed in a well-known collection. He continued to say that he owned a second example of the variety. At the time, his explanation (there was no photograph available of the unique variety being discussed) of his coin was somewhat confusing, as he had not viewed his coin in quite some time.

Bill's description of his coin (which is NOT a second known of the unique variety that was being discussed) was the following. "I believe it is an obverse Maris 73 and reverse Maris 72". This description was what caused the confusion, and for a short time, a Maris 72 1/2-aa was listed as a known variety. After specialists viewed the other unique variety, they concluded it was indeed a unique die and not known dies used to produce the coin. As such, the Maris 72 1/2-aa was delisted from the NJ variety count, and Maris 73 ½-jj was put in its place.

Fast forward to 2014, when I was called by Bill to view a coin he had found in his collection that he remembered referencing at the 1991 NJ Symposium. Needless to say I was eager to view the piece and see what the coin really was. After a quick examination, I knew right away what Bill was trying to say back in 1991. His coin was "obverse 72 and reverse 73." He said it this way because the Maris 72 obverse is only known paired with the "z" reverse, while the 73 obverse is only known paired with the "aa" reverse. This "new" discovery was clearly Maris 72-aa.

After some discussion, I purchased this coin on behalf of a well-known collector. Before the coin was purchased, one thing that I did was go through my entire library of catalogs containing significant NJ coppers to see if another example had come up and was just missed as the "z" and "aa" reverses are extremely similar in design. I was not able to locate another example in my searching.

This coin was purchased by Bill sometime in the late 70s or early 80s at a local NJ coin show from a dealer who did not specialize in colonials. Bill mentioned he bought the coin based on the extremely low price and the fact he saw the obverse was 72. He did not give it more thought until sometime later when he had a chance to work it up for his collection.

For comparison, the following page pictures a 72-aa, a 73-zz, and a 73-aa.

When attributing this coin, I first looked for the obvious differences on the "z" and "aa" reverses. The key area to look at is the right side of the shield where the horizontal and vertical shield lines meet. Drawing a straight line across to the right side legends (UNUM) one can see on the "z" reverse, the line would hit the top of the second U in UNUM. On the "aa" reverse, the line would hit in-between the second U and the M, far lower than on the "z" reverse. This element is very clear on the discovery coin. Also, on the "z" reverse, the final star after UNUM is almost touching the M while on the "aa" reverse, the star is clearly spaced away from the M. This feature is not visible on the discovery coin because of its undertype.

While the obverse is a little easier to see the differences visually between the 72 and 73, one of the key elements if the coin is weak, or overstruck, is the date. On the 72 obverse, the 8 of the date is above and in-between two denticles, and the last 7 is right above a denticle. On the 73 obverse, the 8 is directly above a denticle and the second 7 is in-between two denticles. The date on the discovery coin clearly shows the diagnostics of the 72 obverse.

In today's pursuit of numismatic knowledge, we have far more tools available to us to help our quest of discovery. Way back in 1991, pictures were not available like they are today with digital photography. Without a coin in hand to study, descriptions can be very misleading and this is what happened 25 years ago. By calling this piece Maris 72½-aa in 1991, it was assumed this was the same coin as the 73½-jj, a coin that also went through a name change a decade ago (73½-jj from 73½–aa).

The process of rediscovering this unique variety was very fun and enjoyable. From the many hours of conversations with Bill Anton, to photographing the piece, to the many more hours of conversations with other NJ copper specialists to verify what I saw was a true labor of love. It's reasons like this discovery coin that all of us spend countless hours studying our coins and writing articles and books to further knowledge for collectors, both present and in the future.

Take a look at your 72-z, maybe you have something else! Happy Hunting.

A quick thank you to Bill Anton for making this coin available to see and purchase. To Dennis Wierzba, Clem Schettino, Mike Demling, and Gregory Field (sorry if I forgot anyone) for looking over the original images and confirming the variety, and to the countless other specialists who viewed the coin and images shortly after the purchase to also verify the attribution.

Maris 72-aa
The Discovery Coin

Maris 72-z

Maris 73-aa
(Two different coins have been used to show identification points clearly.)

A DECEPTIVE COUNTERFEIT COB

(Marc Mayhugh)

Many years ago, Virgil Hancock wrote a serial for *The Numismatist* entitled "Featuring Fakes." In one particular issue, he warned of what he called "as beautiful an 8 reales of Felipe III, Mexico mint, as ever you're likely to see." He explained that the coin is cast and can only be discerned as a counterfeit by the "irregularities left in the mold in the junctures of the diagonal bands in the lower left corner of the shield."

Hancock plated three examples of the spurious coin, giving the names of the owners, and where they are from. He notes that another example exists, but that he hasn't been able to locate the fourth collector. Hancock exclaimed that the coin is "A beautiful job of casting, all three pieces being identical, which means that somewhere, in someone's collection, there's today the original coin which some previous owner used as a pattern to make a mold for these three fakes." He then asked his patented question, "Do you have the original?"

I would think that there are many more than four examples of this counterfeit 8 reales, or else, the same four pieces keep surfacing over and over, as I have seen several different specimens. One such piece is listed on Daniel Sedwick's "Fake Cob Database." That coin is listed as FC#53636. Sedwick notes that it is silver and has authentic looking patina. I also own an example that I purchased as a counterfeit from Clem Schettino, at last year's EAC convention. Still, this is a very deceptive fake and collectors need to be made aware of its existence.

COLONIAL AMERICA'S OTHER DOLLARS

(Leo Shane)

We are all familiar with the Spanish Dollar as a major factor in Colonial America's commence. It enjoyed widespread use, was commonly seen in commerce and eventually became the basis for the fledgling United States monetary system. It was even legal tender until the coinage act of 1857 that demonetized all foreign coinage. The milled version was minted from 1732 to 1826 while the COB version was used from 1572 to 1773.

1746 Spanish Milled Dollar

Coin Chart from *Poulson's Town and Country Almanac for the year 1792* by Zachariah Poulson

I'd like to suggest that America had two other dollar coins that were seen in commerce during the 18th century. Beginning in the early 1790's, Almanacks of the era started to list Swedish and Danish dollars in their coin charts they provided for merchants to use. See the picture above of the chart appearing in *Poulson's Town and Country*

Almanac for the year 1792 by Zachariah Poulson. The weight for the Spanish, Swedish and Danish Dollars is listed as 17 dwt 6 grains and all three are valued the same. These values are; 6s 0d New England; 8s 0d New York/North Carolina; 7s 6d Pennsylvania/New Jersey/Delaware/Maryland; and 4s 8d South Carolina/Georgia. Since this is after the Federal coinage act of 1790, they are also valued at $1 US Federal.

Below are pictures of Swedish and Danish Dollars that I own. Comparing them to the Spanish milled dollar, they are slightly larger (41mm vs 39mm). Their authorized weights are slightly heavier than the Spanish dollar (29.36 grams Swedish, 28.89 grams Danish vs 27.07 grams Spanish). The listed purity for the three coins is .878 Swedish, .875 Danish and .917/.903 Spanish. I assume that even though they had slightly more bullion value, the Swedish and Danish dollars were less familiar than the Spanish dollars and thus no premium value was given.

1776 Swedish Riksdaler

1776 Danish/Norway Specie Daler

The Swedish dollar shows the bust of King Gustavus III on the obverse and the Swedish Arms, crowned globe with 3 crowns, on the reverse. The Danish dollar shows a mirrored C7 on the obverse for King Christian VII. The coin shows a crowned oval coat of arms on the reverse. It is interesting to note that the obverse of the Danish dollar has the legend D G EX DAN NORV VAND GOTH. The translation is "By the Grace of God King of Denmark, Norway, Vandals and Goths." During the years 1536 to 1814, present day Denmark, Norway and parts of extreme northern Germany (populated by Vandals and Goths) were ruled by one monarch.

Since I have studied coin charts in American Almanacks as early as the late 1740's and have not seen Swedish and Danish dollars listed before the 1790's, I wondered what event happened to make these coins more popular in America during the last 10 years of the eighteenth century. The history of trading with Europe and the merchant ships use to export and import goods, seems to yield the answers.

Prior to the revolution, American ships were prohibited from trading directly with European markets. All goods were directed to be landed at a British port, taxed and then the goods reloaded onto British ships that delivered them to various European and North African markets. American merchant ships were protected in the Atlantic and elsewhere by the British Navy.

During the revolution and immediately following (roughly 1775 to 1790), American merchants began to call on European and North African markets directly with most routes going through the Mediterranean Sea. This presented difficulties and hostile treatment from the British Navy. Also entering the Mediterranean meant the merchants now had to deal with the Barbary Coast and French pirates and privateers. Our French allies supplied protection to American merchant fleets during this time.

Beginning in the early 1790's, France experienced much political turmoil with its various revolutionary wars and the onset of the Napoleonic War with Great Briton. With its priorities on these conflicts, the French were less able to extend protection to American merchant ships. It was also during this time that the new American nation was starting to form alliances and establish consulates with other European nations. Among these were Sweden and Denmark. These two nations had strong navies as well established trade routes in the Mediterranean. It was a natural fit for a nation such as the fledgling United States that had a minimal navy during the early part of this decade. During this time, it was not uncommon to see American ships accompany Swedish and Danish convoys as they traversed the Mediterranean trade routes. Obviously this led to more trade with these two countries and more chances that their coins would enter our commerce. These coins became common enough that Almanack printers added them to the list of coins frequently encountered.

I believe that listing Swedish and Danish dollars the coin charts of American Almanacks of the eighteenth century qualifies them as true American colonial coins. So the next time you talk about dollars that circulated in Eighteenth century America, do not assume that the only examples were Spanish dollars, there are two others that you should collect, namely Swedish and Danish/Norwegian dollars.

Acknowledgement:
Photos courtesy of Jack Howes

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THIRD QUARTER AUCTION RECAP

(John Kraljevich)

After the landmark offerings of early 2015, including the January Donald G. Partrick sale at Heritage and the Stack's Bowers sale of the Henry. P. Kendall Foundation collection in March, it was predictable that the velocity of the colonial coin market would slow down a bit. Fewer boldface rarities have sold, but there have been plenty of opportunities for collectors to buy all sorts of coins at all sorts of price points -- including some of the Eric Newman and Partrick coins at discounts from their earlier prices. The lower prices on these rarities suggest a few things: 1) there are major players (i.e. dealers) that spend big money in name auctions that do not bid in other sales or have a significant retail clientele for them, 2) dealer and collectors prefer to save their liquidity for the next "fresh" thing over something they've seen before unless it's cheap, and 3) there are rarely new eyes that see something the first time the second time around.

In the long run, some of these second-time-around offerings may seem cheap.

Heritage, June 21, 2015 Weekly Internet Auction

Lot 27005: 1787 Fugio copper. Newman 1-L. Cross After Date, STATES UNITED. VF-30 (NGC). CAC.

You'd think collectors would just about climb over each other to own a Fugio copper from the man who literally wrote the book. The Newman 1-L sold in somewhat undignified fashion in a catalogue-by-bar-code weekly internet cattle call is one of the better examples of this rare Red Book variety sold in recent years. It initially sold in the November 2014 Newman sale for $2,585, a perfectly fair price that was less than other recent specimens had brought. The NGC EF-45 Newman coin that had been plated in the 2008 Newman book brought $13,512 in the same November 2014 Heritage sale. The Robert Ayers piece, graded VF-20 (PCGS), brought $3,290 in the August 2014 Stack's Bowers sale. Ted Craige's AU-50 (PCGS) brought $18,800 in January 2013. Even Rob Retz's PCGS Fine-12 brought $2,820. Alas, it seems there are only so many people collecting Fugios by variety, and the appearance of the Retz, Craige, and Ayers collections within a two-year period seems to have sated them (or made them broke?). By the time Newman's rolled around, there wasn't quite so much action, and by the time this Newman 1-L came up again, no one was willing to give the initial buyer a profit. It failed to sell. Then again, the Ayers VF-20 (PCGS) was probably a nicer coin, so maybe that was the better deal?

Stack's Bowers Galleries, July Baltimore Auction

Lot 4004: 1789 Washington Inaugural button. Cobb-unlisted, DeWitt GW1789 - 2a. Extremely Fine.

There wasn't much else interesting in this particular auction, the official event of the slowest of the three Baltimore shows. This button was a neat item though, a previously unlisted variety of Washington Inaugural button in top notch quality. The type, with a script GW at center and LONG LIVE THE PRESIDENT around the edge, is known, but this one was a smidge different. The combination of nice grade and unlisted die variety occasionally worries folks, especially on a series like the Washington Inaugural buttons, which have been reproduced both long ago (around the 1876 Centennial) and in more recent times as deceptive copies. This piece looked okay to me, and it apparently didn't worry most other bidders either, realizing $6,462.50, a very reasonable price for a scarce Washington Inaugural button in nice grade. What would a newly discovered state copper variety bring in EF? And how many average non-numismatists would think a button from Washington's inaugural was way cooler? Seems like this represents excellent long-term value.

Heritage July Summer FUN Auction

Lot 3002: "1776" New Hampshire Pine Tree copper. G-6 (PCGS). CAC.

There's nothing particularly fun about Orlando in July, so this is a show a lot of us skip. I sure did. I had seen this coin before though, when it was offered as an NGC VG-8 in the November 2014 Heritage sale of the Eric P. Newman Collection. I admit it didn't particularly trip my trigger then, and I've never been a big fan of this issue (why does this cast coin show a whole bunch of perfectly identical contact marks that are all the same size and depth? Why would a state so full of top-notch metalsmiths and engravers produce such a crummy looking cast coin? And why is every single specimen known grossly overweight?) Anyway, it brought $94,000 in the Newman sale. Someone cleverly crossed it over to PCGS (how they authenticated it, I couldn't guess) and CAC blessed it as being a perfectly acceptable example for the Good-6 grade. After that work, someone else bought it (presumably someone else bought it) in Summer FUN for the exact sale price it brought in Newman. It wasn't me.

In the same sale, the Newman Standing Indian Excelsior copper was offered, crossed over from NGC AU-50 CAC to PCGS AU-50 CAC. Bought for $88,125 in Newman, it failed to sell this time. Its inauthentic red color from an old cleaning made it a bit unappealing, though its sharpness and surfaces are actually really nice. The Newman Chalmers threepence, recently crossed from NGC AU-50 CAC to PCGS AU-50 CAC, is a very nice coin but did not sell in this appearance. It brought a perfectly fair $25,850 in its November 2014 offering.

Stack's Bowers Galleries August ANA Auction

Lot 24: 1652 Massachusetts Oak Tree Shilling. Noe-10. The Ghost Tree. VF Details, Repaired (PCGS).

This coin was almost certainly familiar to most auction attendees, as it's been offered a number of times in recent years. It's had some trouble finding a home despite the Ghost Tree being a very scarce variety, probably because the tree on this one has been imaginatively re-engraved. Despite the "repair," this is a famous coin with an ancient provenance: it was plated in Eric Newman's *The Secret of the Good Samaritan Shilling* and was offered in the S.H. Chapman sale of the Richard Lambert Collection in 1910 and the 1987 sale of the Norweb Collection. This time around, the specimen was offered without its provenance, probably through neglect more than some intent to hide it. It realized $1,703.75, less than the $1,840 it brought in the 2008 Stack's Americana sale when offered raw with a long discussion of its provenance and less than the $1,725 it brought in a PCGS XF Details, Scratched, Tooled holder in the January 2009 Heritage sale, which also noted its provenance. Frankly, for such an oddball coin, that fact that it's brought such consistent prices over the years is sort of shocking.

Lot 31: 1785 Connecticut copper. African Head. Miller 4.1-F.4. AU-50 (PCGS) CAC.

I used to own this coin once upon a time and liked it a lot. It offers a superb strike for an African Head, good color and surface quality, and an excellent overall look. Calling it AU may be a bit of a stretch, but it's certainly a nice choice EF. $4,600 was a good deal for whomever bought it. It wasn't quite as nice as the Ford coin that hammered at $8,500 a decade ago, but it was certainly nicer than the Ford duplicate that hammered at $2,800. There haven't been many similarly nice examples of this distinctive Red Book variety offered since. The little planchet split didn't bother me in the least, but I know some people don't love them.

Lot 40: 1795 Talbot, Allum, & Lee / Blofield Cavalry mule. Fuld Mule-6. MS-66 BN (PCGS). CAC.

I can't get terribly excited about TAL mulings, since most or all seem to have been made for contemporary Conder token collectors rather than as circulating coins (though the John Howard pieces are seen circulated often enough to make me think otherwise). The Blofield mulings, however, are admittedly pretty rare and have a really great design, with swords and horns and pikes, oh my! This example was a beautiful one, bringing $5,757.50. It probably would have brought a lot more in 2008, when two of these brought five-figure sums in the spring of that year. This particular specimen brought $7,050 in the November 2014 Eric Newman sale. It was sold without that provenance this time around, perhaps to its detriment, though perhaps not: it also brought $7,050 in the April 2015 Heritage sale when it was sold without its provenance.

Lot 41: 1791 Washington Large Eagle cent. Proof-63 RB (NGC).
Lot 42: 1791 Washington Large Eagle cent. MS-65 BN (NGC).
Lot 43: 1791 Washington Small Eagle cent. MS-65 BN (NGC).

Proof is better than Mint State, right? Maybe not, especially if all the coins are struck from the same dies and seem to be struck pretty much the same way (though, admittedly, some are Proofier than others, perhaps indicating that the ones struck for English collectors were produced on polished blanks.) These coins realized $2,585.00, $4,125.43, and $4,406.25, respectively. Considering how much scarcer the Small Eagle is than the Large Eagle, that might have been the best deal of the three.

Lot 10014: 1787 Fugio copper. Newman 12-X. STATES UNITED. MS-66 BN (NGC).

Fugio varieties may not be doing so hot this year, but especially high grade Fugios continue to see a lot of action -- probably selling more often to folks who only want to own one than folks who want three or four or fifty. The 12-X is a lot rarer than most of the other Bank of New York Hoard varieties, though that rarity probably had little to do with the $14,100 price.

Heritage August ANA Auction

Lot 3901: Sommer Islands Twopence, VF-30 (PCGS) CAC

This piece increased in grade since its appearance in the May 2014 Newman sale (then VF-25 NGC) and decreased in price (then $64,625), selling for $49,350 this time around.

Lot 3903: Lord Baltimore Shilling, AU-58 (PCGS)

This piece moved laterally in grade since its January 2015 Partrick offering as an NGC AU-58 but decreased slightly in price, to $47,000 from $56,400. Of course, if the buyer collected roughly 10% of the hammer price as commission the first time around and collected 17.5% the second time around, they made money.

Lot 3904: Carolina Elephant token, EF-45 (NGC) CAC

Selling for $39,950, this was the May 2014 Newman coin that then brought $47,000. Same holder, too.

Lot 3011: 1670-A French Colonies 5 sols. AU-55 (PCGS)

Sold for $4,935, this was a pretty nice example of an underrated and important coin. It's doubtful this coin would have brought less a decade ago (I recall buying one from Tom Rinaldo in EF for $3,500 in the mid 1990s). The weird part is that these were bringing more, recently even, which gave me hope that these would stop being so incredibly underrated: a PCGS AU-53 sold for $11,750 in the March 2013 Stack's Bowers sale, an

NGC AU-50 brought $9,987.50 in a January 2013 Heritage world coin sale, a EF-40 (PCGS) sold for an alarming $18,400 at Stack's Bowers in November 2012, a beautiful AU-58 (PCGS) brought gasps in the room when it sold for $37,375 in the August 2011 Stack's Bowers auction, an MS-62 (PCGS) brought a stunning $19,550 in January 2011, and all the way back in August 2010 an AU-53 (PCGS) brought $7,475. So why did this bring under $5,000? Color me confused (as I was, admittedly, when these things were bringing close to $20,000).

Lot 3907: 1776 Continental Dollar, EG FECIT, EF Details, Repaired (PCGS).

A little corroded, a little bit smoothed, this brought $10,575. It's now tough to buy a Continental Dollar any cheaper.

Lot 3908: 1788 Massachusetts cent, Ryder 1-D. MS-66 BN (PCGS) CAC.

It was worth $37,600 in the January 2015 Partrick sale as an MS-66 BN (NGC). It's now worth $39,950 in the same grade but in a PCGS holder.

Lot 3909: 1787 Connecticut copper, Miller 33.39-s.1. MS-64+ (PCGS). CAC.

This piece was previously offered in the November 2014 Newman sale as an MS-65 BN (NGC). Someone cracked it out and took a little bit of harmless green verdigris off the obverse from above the portrait, improving its appearance considerably and doing no harm. It was afterward certified as MS-64+ by PCGS, a perfectly fair grade given its really superb quality. After selling for $35,250 in Newman, it brought $19,975 this time around. Ouch. Another very similar quality Newman 1787 Connecticut sold in November 2014 for $16,450 (then graded MS-63 NGC), suggesting that the second price, not the first one, was more in line with the market. On the other hand, in this same August 2015 Heritage sale, a Miller 32.2-x.1 in PCGS MS-63 that wasn't nearly as nice as either coin brought $14,687.50, making both ex-Newman coins seem relatively cheap.

Lot 7015: 1787 Connecticut copper, Miller 32.2-X.1. VF-30 (NGC).

Chocolate brown and nicely detailed, this coin brought $282, less than all but one of the 32 Jefferson nickels in this auction.

Dix, Noonan, and Webb's September sale of the Harrington Manville Irish Collection

Lot 284: St. Patrick's farthing in silver, Fine.

Described as having its "edge filed and some light scratches on obverse," this piece brought 3,000 pounds, roughly $4,500 hammer, in line with what it would have brought in an American sale.

Lot 285: St. Patrick's farthing in silver, Nimbus variety, Good Fine.

The Garrett specimen of this great rarity, the American collectors and dealers all saw it in this London auction, propelling it to a hammer price of 13,000 pounds, $23,500 or so with 20% commission. Even though it showed some marks, this could well have brought more in a properly marketed U.S. sale. It had not been sold publicly since 1980.

Heritage's September Long Beach Auction

Lot 3679: 1787 Fugio copper. Newman 13-X. MS-66 BN (NGC).
Lot 3678: 1787 Fugio copper. Newman 12-X. MS-64 BN (NGC).
Lot 3677: 1787 Fugio copper. Newman 13-X. MS-64 BN (NGC).
Lot 3008: 1787 Fugio copper. Newman 12-X. MS-62 BN (NGC).

$7,637.50, $3,525, $4,595.43, and $1,997. There are plenty of Mint State Fugios to go around.

Stack's Bowers Galleries October Auction

Lot 3: "1776" (1792) United States Diplomatic Medal. SP-55 (PCGS).

Never before offered in a major auction, this relatively newly discovered specimen is only the fourth example known. The last auction offering of an original Diplomatic Medal was in the Ford V sale, bringing $37,375, considered a fairly strong price in 2004. With its history and rarity, it could have been assumed that this example -- probably the finest in private hands -- would have brought more than Ford's. No one expected it to bring $188,000 though!

BOOK REVIEW: ABEL BUELL AND THE HISTORY OF THE CONNECTICUT AND FUGIO COINAGES, BY CHRISTOPHER MCDOWELL

(Jeff Rock)

Back when a small group of us started C4 we envisioned it as a small, social group that would meet every year, have a small auction and issue a chatty newsletter that didn't have much in the way of great articles (*The Colonial Newsletter* would handle the scholarly writing) but kept us all in touch with each other. I am happy to report that we have failed miserably in that respect. Instead of the small club the founders envisioned, C4 has managed (with lots of hard work by its elected officers and generous donations from its members) to become one of the most vibrant specialty clubs in the entire numismatic field, with an award-winning journal that is full of first-rate articles and – something none of us ever envisioned – becoming a publishing behemoth, putting out a book every year or so, many of which have won awards, all of which have been well done and have advanced our hobby appreciably. So it should be no surprise that the latest book issued by The Colonial Coin Collectors Club is one that belongs on every collector's bookshelf and should be read, cover to cover.

Abel Buell and the History of the Connecticut and Fugio Coinages, by Christopher McDowell sets a new benchmark in the numismatic biography genre. Not just an update of earlier works on Buell, McDowell instead examines every known aspect of Buell's life and career, often uncovering documents that had been previously unknown, overlooked or misquoted by earlier researchers. The sheer mass of footnotes attest to the amount of painstaking research that went into this book – the author's "day job" as a lawyer shines through in the thoroughness of his research, the soundness of his arguments and the even-handed way that other possibilities and interpretations are discussed. The author's humanity shines through in some of the tangential areas that are explored, most notably in a section on child labor as it related to the cotton industry in early America, but also in an account of James Jarvis' son who gave his life for his country in a rather brave and noble way, helping to erase any stain on his family name. There are excellent photographs throughout, often of incredible specimens of coins, maps, silver objects and weapons which help bring the story to life, and the book has a lovely dustjacket that illustrates Buell's famous map and a few of his copper creations. The chapters are short and entertaining, allowing one to read the book slowly over a period of a week or two, a handful of chapters at a time, letting you enjoy the story as it unfolds. Needless to say for a C4-issued book, the author and editorial board did their work well, and the work will stand up to scrutiny for generations to come.

Abel Buell should need no introduction to colonial coin enthusiasts – he was the "American Genius" who was decades ahead of his time in figuring out mass production of hubs and dies, and was an integral part of both the Connecticut copper coinage as well as the 1787 Fugio coppers, the first national coinage for the fledgling United States. Both

those coinages failed in spectacular fashion, and those failures are metaphors for Buell's own life – the country survived the failure of contract coinage and Buell survived more failures than successes and yet never stopped trying for the Next Big Thing – a peculiarly American trait indeed. Buell was one of the most original mechanically inclined minds of his time, a man who literally invented technologies decades before others thought of them (and made fortunes off of them), a skilled artisan whose most famous work today sells for millions of dollars, but was also a man who nearly always lived in humble circumstances, spent his final years in a poorhouse and is buried in an unmarked grave and seemingly unknown to much of the world.

The title of McDowell's book might make one think it contains information useful only to numismatists, but that would be wrong. Coin-related material does take up a good chunk of the book because that is the author's main interest – but also because the coins are the most tangible (and affordable!) survivors of Buell's amazing life. But the work covers so many other aspects of Buell – his early years, the forgery conviction that left him literally and figuratively branded and scarred, his marriages and children, his religious life and his interactions with other very notable people of his time. But the work deals with far more than just coins. It examines Buell's role in lapidary, metallurgy, typeface manufacturing, printing, engraving, map making, privateering, weaponry making, work as a silversmith and even his role in industrial espionage, traveling to England to steal manufacturing secrets to help set up an entirely new industry back home, one that would have severe consequences since it proved to be one of the underlying causes that led directly to the Civil War. Along the way Buell had many notable firsts, including setting up America's first type foundry to produce type in English and engraving the first map of the United States, which today sells for millions of dollars on the rare instances one is offered.

As we take the journey of Buell's life we are introduced to many other minor characters (always with their birth and death dates when known and brief synopses of their importance to the story), as well as some major ones whose lives are fleshed out in more detail. Among them are James Jarvis and Thomas Machin both well-known names to numismatists, and Machin also known as an engineering marvel who constructed a chain across the Hudson River, something never before attempted, which helped keep the British fleet from easily taking New York during the American Revolution. While a small amount has been written on Jarvis, mostly by Jim Spilman in early issues of *The Colonial Newsletter* (based on earlier research by Damon G. Douglas), his presence in numismatic literature has remained scant, and the accounting McDowell gives of his search for a European backer for his Fugio coinage (and the Congressional reaction to his inability to make good on that contract) is information that has not been published in such detail before.

Less well known perhaps is the name Major Eli Leavenworth who has been something of a mystery and a thorn in the side of many colonial researchers, starting with Sylvester Crosby, and extending down to Walter Breen and present day researchers as well. It was known that Leavenworth had use of the Connecticut mint for a short period of time. Researchers have speculated on whether it was some of the rare New York patters, the Nova Eborac coppers or even something like the Muttohnead Connecticut coppers that

were produced under Leavenworth's control. In true lawyerly fashion McDowell examines each of the claimants and then demolishes the possibilities that those were the coins produced. He reminds us that contemporary "facts" can just as easily be wrong as they are right, and that researchers who claim certainty for something without any sort of real evidence often tread on quicksand. Other important people such as James F. Atlee and Benjamin Buell are also discussed in detail, adding more to the story of America's early coinage and the skullduggery that occurred behind the scenes when laws were flouted and morals weakened.

Abel Buell's career post-coinage is addressed, as much detail as can be found, including the amazing industrial espionage teased about earlier (and if you want details, you're going to have to buy the book and read it!), as well as his partnership in Buell & Greenleaf which had a contract to mass-produce high-quality cavalry swords for the American government at a time when it feared going to war with France in the aftermath of their Revolution (which left a King beheaded and a nation terrorized as it tried to find a path between monarchy and democracy); as usual Buell's ingenuity helped create something new, the first steel-edge swords produced on a large scale in North America. While the last few years of Buell's life left little written record, it is known that they were spent in a poorhouse – though McDowell's research makes it clear that what we think that term means is not really what it was at the time. While it seems incongruous that this man, a genius in every sense of the word, who created so much that has so much value today would die destitute and be buried in a Potter's Field somewhere unknown, such was the fate of many men of the time, men of distinction, promise and wealth who gambled all they had on doing even better, and fell short of the goal, a reminder that the American Dream is an awfully good goal but never guaranteed.

In a note to this reviewer, McDowell mentioned that *"As I wrote the book I felt a duty to the memory of the deceased to tell their story accurately. I tried my best in every way to research and record only factual information."* This reviewer thinks that goal has been amply met, and suggests that McDowell pursue his special talent in researching these important characters and bringing their stories to life. There is so much more we would all like to know about Jarvis, Machin, Atlee and the like that one can hope for a series of volumes that can separate fact from myth and bring us as close to the truth as we will ever likely know.

This book is published by C4 and can be purchased through numismatic literature dealer Charles Davis whose information is found in an ad elsewhere in this Journal.

Sunday, July 26, 2015
Dear Syd,

On Friday I received the summer 2015 *C4 Newsletter* along with the special July 2015 supplement and had to read it immediately! I found the entire issue fascinating from the initial article by Ken Bressett discussing of the coins bearing an NE counterstamp through the supplement publishing Chris Salmon's 2014 *Coinage of the Americas Conference* lecture. Special congratulations are due to Chris Salmon on his brilliant article that greatly expands out understanding of the minting techniques used by Hull and Sanderson. Chris has done an exceptional job of explaining the minting process for the enigmatic Willow Tree coinage and has significantly furthered our understanding of Oak Tree coinage production. I am very grateful to Chris for undertaking the many long hours of research and study that were required to produce this essay. We are all in his debt.

Sincerely,

Lou Jordan

William Anton Jr.
"King of New Jersey Coppers"

The passing of Bill Anton is a very sad note for Colonial collectors. I met Bill in 2006 through a mutual friend, Michael Wierzba, which started a friendship which I will cherish forever. Bill was a special person, renowned for his expansive collections of colonial coinage, but by far he was noted for assembling a collection containing the most varieties of New Jersey Coppers. He was able to build a collection of 133 varieties which is unmatched by anyone.

Bill.....You will be missed. Mike Demling

Robert (Bob) A. Vlack
1/29/27 - 8/11/15

Bob was born and raised in the South Bronx, NY during the Depression years. He moved to Connecticut, entered the military serving during WWII in the Army as a medic, entered college under the GI Bill and did his graduate studies at Northern University and MIT. Being the proverbial (and literal) "rocket scientist," Bob used his engineering skills working in ground support for the Titan Missile program. Later he was employed as a Project Engineer for Western Electric.

At the age of 50, he retired from the 9:00 - 5:00 workforce and became a coin dealer. It was at this time that he served in the New Hampshire House of Representatives as a Legislator.

Bob started collecting shortly after WWII and later decided to specialize in collecting and studying the coinage and paper money of our colonial times. In the 1950s, he started doing serious numismatic research and over several decades he constructed photographic plates of colonial coin images, assisting the collector in identifying die varieties. Several colonial coin die varieties are known by the Vlack numbering system, including the coinage of Machin's Mill and St. Patrick Halfpence (among others). He wrote articles in various numismatic publications, including eighteen of them in the Colonial Newsletter.

His first book, *Early American Coins*, was published in 1963. In 2001 he published *Early North American Advertising Notes* and in 2004 he published *The French Billon Coinage in the Americas* (a C4 publication). This book won the Fred Bowman Literary Award by the Canadian Numismatic Research Society in 2005. Bob also was involved in the editing and rewriting of many numismatic books we enjoy today. In 2007, the Colonial Coin Collectors Club awarded him its Lifetime Achievement Award.

Bob was active in, and a member of, many numismatic organizations. He was president of the Collectors Club of New England and La Societe Americaine. In addition to his writings, he gave educational presentations as the featured speaker for many clubs and numismatic organizations.

He is survived by six children, thirteen grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

On a personal note, Bob was always willing to help collectors from the novice to the expert. On the bourse floor, his table was never empty - between helping customers with an inventory that had something for everyone, or assisting a researcher, or educating a collector. Bob always had a smile on his face and a welcoming demeanor. His passion for numismatics was addictive. He will be missed by many and remembered through the ages for his numismatic contributions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Heads up! The dates for our convention this year are 5-8 November 2015. Block it out now in your calendars!

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RESEARCH ASSISTANCE SOUGHT

I'm currently undertaking a comprehensive study of the Castorland jeton. I'm approaching the study from both sides of the Atlantic, relying heavily on French sources, and my study entails operational details from the manufacture of flans to the mechanical workings of the screw press; the history of jetons as they evolved from arithmetical counters to monarchial presentation pieces; events leading up to the establishment of the New York Company; the biography of Benjamin Duvivier; etc. culminating in detailed descriptions of variants struck from at least one original die. As you can see it's a big work, but I've been at it quite a few years and am wonderfully engaged in the project. Here is a "finding list" of details I'm looking for, as well as photos if possible:

1. If the specimen is in a slab, all the label information.
2. Identify the metal, gold, silver, copper, bronze. If silver, indicate thin or thick planchet.
3. If edge-stamped, identify the symbol and the lettering and location of the stamping (such as 6 o'clock relative the obverse.)
4. Die alignment: coin turn/medal turn.
5. Describe state of any reverse die failure, perceptible bulge, advanced crack, etc.
6. Describe reverse caustic incursion, sometimes identified as rust, at the right handle of the vessel.
7. Describe any other identifying factors such a rim bumps, scratches, spots, unfilled letters of legends, etc. that would help identify the piece if it were re-encapsulated at some future time.
8. Indicate the provenance, if known. If you currently own the specimen feel free to identify it ex your name for the benefit of future owners.

Please contact Chester L. Sullivan at csull@ku.edu

COMPLETE C4 NEWSLETTER CDs FOR SALE

C4 is making available on CD of a complete set of *C4 Newsletters* from 1993 (vol.1, no.1) through 2011 (vol.19, no. 4). The format is a fully searchable PDF files, which makes life and research much easier. Thanks to Randy Clark, Ray Williams and Gary Trudgen for their vision and extremely hard work, which now lets us offer these wonderful research tools to you for $50 plus $4.00 p&h for members or $75 plus $4.00 p&h for non-members. To order, please contact either (a) Wayne Shelby at dughistory@juno.com or at P.O. Box 568 Rancocas, NJ 08073 or (b) Charlie Rohrer at RohrerC@cadmus.com or at P.O. Box 25 Mountville, PA 17554. Please send your check made out to C4 to Charlie Rohrer at the above address.

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Wayne Shelby has agreed to store the back copies of the *C4 Newsletter*. People wishing to purchase back issues that are still available should send their money to our treasurer, Charlie Rohrer, whose contact data are at page 2. Upon receipt of the money, he will contact Wayne, who will mail out the material. Back copies of the *Newsletter* are $10 for the first and $8 for all after that placed at the same time. If you have questions of what material is available, you can contact Wayne at:

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C4 Offers Important Colonial Books

For more information on the following books, published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4), visit the C4 website at www.colonialcoins.org. These books may be ordered directly from: Charles Davis' website: www.numisbook.com.

(1) Carlotto, Tony, The Copper Coins of Vermont and Those Bearing the Vermont Name, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 1998. Price: $165.

(2) Jordan, Lou. *John Hull, The Mint, and The Economics of Massachusetts Coinage,* Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2002. Price: $10.

(3) Martin, Sydney. *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood (1722-1724),* Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2007. Price: $85.

(4) Martin, Sydney. *The Rosa Americana Coinage of William Wood*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2012. Price $85.

(5) Siboni, Roger S., Howes, Jack L. and Ish, A. Buell, *New Jersey State Coppers. History. Description. Collecting.*, The American Numismatic Society and Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2013. Price: $195.

(6) Vlack, Robert. *An Illustrated Catalogue of the French Billon Coinage in the Americas*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2004. Price: $50.

(7) *New Jersey State Coppers -- History * Description * Collecting*, authored by Roger Siboni, Jack Howes, and Buell Ish and co-published by ANS and C4 is now available. Purchases may also be made by mail (via a form that can be downloaded) or directly through the ANS website using either PayPal or credit card; be sure to indicate whether you are a C4 or ANS member.

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The Daniel Frank Sedwick database of fake cobs is now on ForgeryNetwork :
http://www.forgerynetwork.com/default.aspx?keyword=cob ..
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C4 Membership Dues

Annual dues are currently $30.00 for Regular Membership ($40 if residing outside the United States) and $10.00 for Junior Membership (under 18 years of age; $15 is non US resident). They are payable on a calendar year basis... due January 1. The year through which you are paid appears after your name on the mailing address label on the *C4 Newsletter* envelope. Life Memberships can be purchased for 25 times the annual membership cost, or $750.00. You may mail checks (made out to "C4") to:

Charlie Rohrer, C4 Treasurer
PO Box 25
Mountville, PA 17554

Thank you for paying in a timely manner... It makes his job easier and will be much appreciated!

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NEW RESOURCE FOR THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Our C4 Newsletter now has an index available on our website at www.colonialcoins.org. There are actually two indexes: one by author and a second by topic/title. This is a beginning and the index will improve over time. We have intentions of updating the index within a week or two of every issue being shipped. We ask past authors and contributors to the C4N to please review their work in the index and forward any corrections/additions/suggestions to Ray Williams at njraywms@optonline.net or give a call.

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PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

In accordance with our by-laws, those who have recently joined C4 as provisional members are listed below. If any current C4 member in good standing has a reason any of the following should be denied membership in C4, please contact either your Regional VP or the President of the Club, Jim Rosen. The new provisional members, with their home states, are :

Thomas Gundersen - NV
Bob Schreiner - NC
David Stitely - PA

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CLASSIFIED ADS

Grayscale ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows (color ads are 50% more in each category):

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	4 issues	Copy Size
1 page	$200	$300	$450	$600	6" x 9"
1/2 page	$125	$180	$250	$350	6" x 4.5"

Covers cost somewhat more (please inquire – generally $200 additional). If you want to include a photo with your ad there will be an additional $10 charge. A black and white photo will be needed, but the size can be adjusted. Please send check with your ad. We accept camera-ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 10 lines of text.

NOTICE: The Colonial Coin Collectors Club does not review the ads provided for accuracy, nor does it assess any items offered for sale relative to authenticity, correct descriptions, or the like. C4 is not to be considered a party to any transactions occurring between members based on such ads, and will in no way be responsible to either the buyer or seller.

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guide. It will be full of information on the Massachusetts Cents and Half Cents making attribution of this series very simple. The new guide will debut at the C4 convention this November in Baltimore. **Packed with over 200 informative pages covering Cents & Half cents – with this guide anyone will be able to attribute the Mass Coppers! Large 6" photos of each variety, with attribution points outlined. Stay tuned!**

Mike Demling

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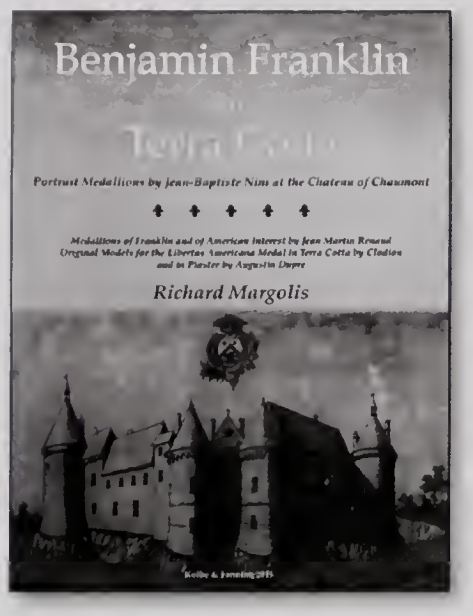
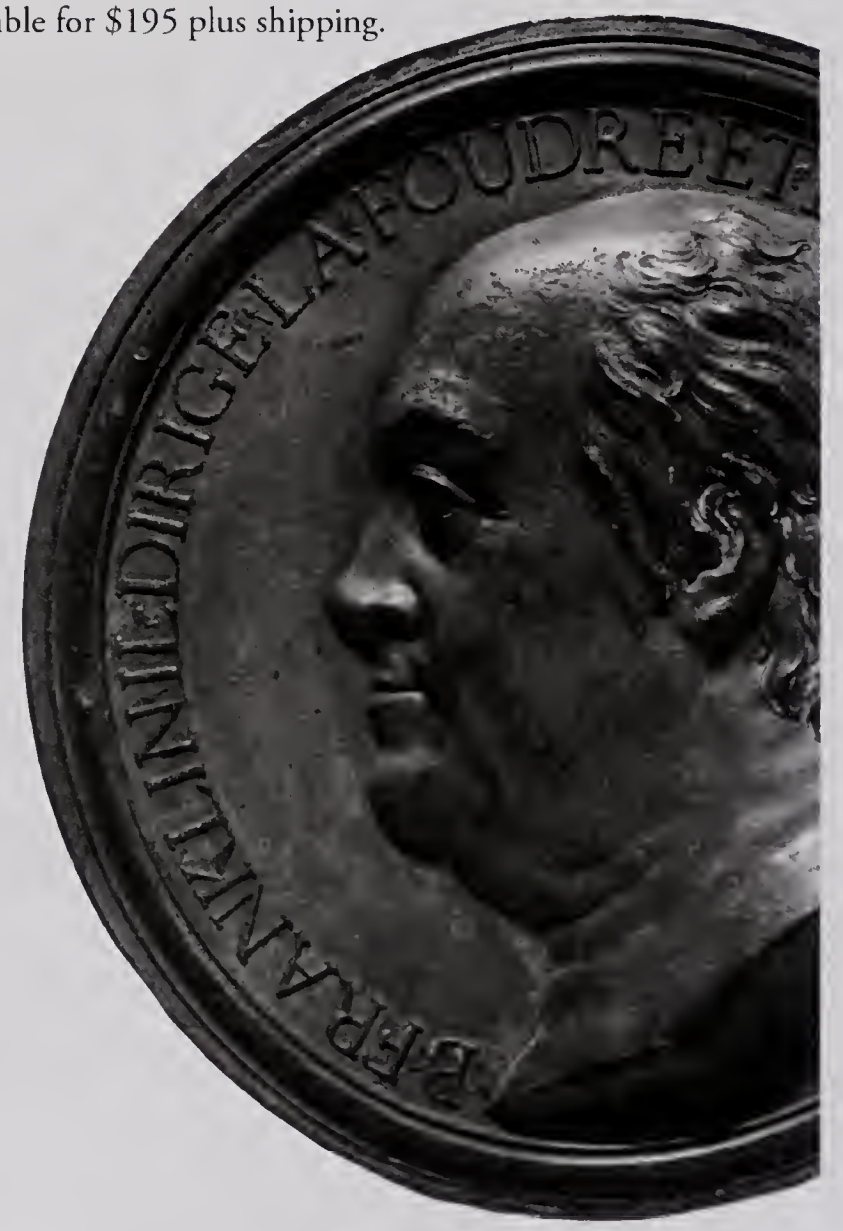


BENJAMIN FRANKLIN IN TERRA COTTA

Portrait Medallions by Jean-Baptiste Nini at the Chateau of Charmont

Benjamin Franklin in Terra Cotta discusses the numerous varieties of Nini medallions, methods of distinguishing originals from aftercasts, and the artistic context within which these pieces were created. Thoroughly documented and useful to both the novice as well as the expert, this handsome, large-format volume is finely illustrated throughout in full color. Available for $195 plus shipping.



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— Roy E. Goodman, Emeritus Curator of Printed Materials, The American Philosophical Society Library & Past President, The Friends of Benjamin Franklin

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